

How to Cite:

Muhannah, H. G. M. A. (2022). Drugs and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development with special reference to Iraq. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 6(S8), 1669–1688. <https://doi.org/10.53730/ijhs.v6nS8.11500>

Drugs and the 2030 agenda for sustainable development with special reference to Iraq

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Abstract---The drug problem has worsened in recent years globally and has been linked to many other problems such as the spread of organized crime and terrorism, and the accompanying social, security, economic and health problems that threaten the social, cultural and economic entity of countries, which squanders opportunities for growth and prosperity. The research attempts to shed light on the impact of the drug problem on achieving sustainable development goals, which is attributed to the reason for its spread, as the study found, to economic, social and legal factors, including weak religious faith, improper social upbringing, family disintegration, poverty, ignorance and illiteracy, unemployment and emptiness, weak law enforcement, With regard to Iraq, it has suffered from political, economic and social conditions such as wars, security and economic instability, high unemployment, the spread of corruption of all kinds, displacement and other factors that contributed to the increase in drug trafficking, possession and abuse. The research concluded that the drug problem is a complex global problem with intertwined dimensions that harm the individual, the family, society and the state and cause additional burdens on the budgets of countries and deprive them of progress in the areas of sustainable development in favor of control, prevention and awareness operations and the consumption of money and effort, as well as the impact of drugs and their cultivation on the environment and soil.

Keywords---drugs, complex global problem, family, society and the state, sustainable development.

Introduction

The phenomenon of drug trafficking, possession and abuse of various types is one of the most important problems facing countries because of its great impact on the overall social, economic and security conditions, as it affects all segments of society, especially the youth group, which is the group that holds hopes for

building societies and achieving development plans, as global statistics confirm Young people under the age of twenty-five are the target group of dealers and promoters, and they amount to 80% of drug users in the world.

The 193 member states of the United Nations adopted in September 2015. A plan for sustainable development that extends for the year 2030 entitled (Transforming Our World). The plan, whose 17 goals officially entered into force on January 1, 2016. It consists of a declaration, 17 goals and 169 goals for sustainable development. It aims to improve the living conditions of all the world's population by focusing on the main areas of achieving economic growth associated with justice, preserving environmental and natural resources for future generations, and continuously searching for solutions to reduce the unjustified and irresponsible consumption of economic resources, as well as reducing environmental polluting factors and achieving development. social development around the world, by creating jobs and providing food, education and health care for all.

There is no doubt that the effects resulting from drug trafficking, possession and abuse pose a threat to the achievement of sustainable development goals by affecting health, well-being, economic, social and security stability, with the accompanying depletion of financial resources, social problems and crimes related to their use, possession and trafficking, and the environmental damage caused by their cultivation and manufacture.

Research Methodology

1. The problem of searching

The expansion of the phenomenon of drug trafficking, possession and abuse of various types poses a real challenge, one of the most important dimensions of which is the difficulty of achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

2. The importance of research

This research came within the framework of supporting efforts to achieve sustainable development by shedding light on drug trade, abuse and addiction in the world, the reasons for its spread and the implications of that and its impact on achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

3. Research Hypothesis

The research is based on a basic premise that:

There is a clear link between the negative effects of drugs and the achievement of sustainable development goals, and knowing the reason for its spread, and knowing its economic and social effects and its size will contribute to the possibility of analyzing that problem and developing solutions to address it and limit its increase, and thus contribute to achieving sustainable development goals.

4. Objectives of the research

The research aims to know the size of the drug problem, the causes of its abuse, its spread, its effects, and the relationship between them and achieving sustainable development goals by knowing the following:

a. Factors leading to the spread of the drug problem.

- b. The various effects (social, economic, security, psychological...etc) resulting from the spread of drug trafficking and abuse.
- c. The relationship between drugs and achieving sustainable development goals.
- d. Appropriate proposals to address this problem.

The first topic

Conceptual framework for research

First: Drugs and their types:

It is necessary to define some concepts that fit the requirements of the research, and the most important of these concepts are:

1- Definition of drugs:

There are several definitions of the concept of drugs, and they can be categorized into their contents and points of identification, including linguistic, as well as medical, social and idiomatic, and therefore it can be said that there is no comprehensive definition that shows the concept of drug in a comprehensive manner, so we will mention the definitions in detail.

Narcotic

Anesthetic is a term derived from numbness and linguistically means everything that leads to numbness, which is apathy, laziness, relaxation, weakness, drowsiness, and heaviness in the organs. It prevents pain, whether little or much⁽¹⁾. From a pharmacological standpoint, the word anesthetic means (any chemical substance that affects the life of the basic cells of a person and causes drowsiness and sleep or the absence of consciousness accompanied by pain relief⁽²⁾).

In the medical encyclopedia, "narcotics" is defined as "a specific substance that causes a person to lose consciousness in varying degrees and may lead to coma, followed by death, and although narcotics are used in medicine to relieve pain such as sedatives or to induce sleep such as hypnotics, and although all substances used for anesthesia may be considered narcotics. The same concept has now been assigned to denote specific substances that generally depress the nervous system⁽³⁾. The definition adopted by the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs for a narcotic substance is (every raw material or preparation containing stimulant or analgesic substances that, if used for purposes other than directed medical or industrial purposes, would lead to a state of habituation

(1)Ahmed Mazhar Aqabat, Methods of producing media awareness programs to prevent drug damage, Naif Arab University for Security Sciences Studies and Research Center, Riyadh, 2008, p. 15.

(2)Khaled Hamad Al-Mohannadi, Drugs and their psychological, social and economic effects in the countries of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, Studies and Research Unit, Criminal Information Center for Drug Control of the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, Doha, 2013, p. 23.

(3)Wassan Abdul-Hussain Sharbaji, Drugs and Society: Mutual Challenges, Childhood and Motherhood Research Center, Diyala University, 2010, pg. 4.

or addiction to it, which would physically harm the individual and society psychologically and socially) ⁽⁴⁾.

Terminological definition: Every raw material or preparation that contains stimulant or analgesic substances that, if used for purposes other than medical or industrial purposes, would lead to a state of habituation or addiction, which harms the individual and society, both physically and psychologically⁽⁵⁾. Social definition: It is everything that disturbs, inhibits or numbs the mind and changes the thinking and personality of the individual, and there is a difference between habituation and addiction. A step towards addiction, it is the complete dependence on the drug, psychologically and physically, so that the need for it becomes urgent.

Drug abuse

Dealing in language: - Atto: eating and raising the head and hands. Giving: handling, such as giving, giving, and submitting. And dealing: eating: eating what is not right, quarreling in the taker, standing on the tips of the toes of the two feet with the hands raised to the thing.

Abuse in terminology: It is the illegal use of drugs in an irregular and non-periodic manner that individuals use in order to bring about a change in mood or mental state, but it does not reach the level of complete dependence on them ⁽⁶⁾.

Types of drugs

"The types and forms of drugs have become so numerous that it has become difficult to list and classify all of those types, some of them are classified on the basis of their methods of production, and some are classified on the basis of their effect, and there is no unified international agreement on this classification." ⁽⁷⁾

- Classification of drugs according to the methods of their production⁽⁸⁾:
 Natural drugs: They are plants whose leaves, flowers and fruits contain an active substance that has the effect of total or partial anesthesia, including the cannabis plant, ie hashish, the poppy (opium), the coca plant from which cocaine is extracted, and the khat plant.
 Synthetic drugs: They are synthetically produced from natural drugs called opium derivatives, including morphine, codeine, heroin and some pain relievers and cough medicines.

⁽⁴⁾Abdul-Wahhab Abdul-Razzaq Al-Tahafi, The Evolution of Iraqi Legislation to Confront the Drug Problem, Journal of Security Studies, Higher Institute for Security and Administrative Development, House of Books and Documents, Baghdad, 2013, p. 65.

⁽⁵⁾Abdo Kamel Al-Taifi, Drug Trafficking in the Light of Arab Changes, Riyadh, 2015, p. 55.

⁽⁶⁾Moaz Subhi Muhammad Aliwi, Drug Abuse: Social and Economic Causes and Effects, Arab Democratic Center, Palestine, research published on the website <http://www.Democratic.de>

⁽⁷⁾Ahmed Abdel Aziz Mohammed, Psychiatric clinics and their role in the fight against drugs, United Arab Emirates, 2012, p. 10.

⁽⁸⁾Abd al-Wahhab Abd al-Razzaq al-Tahafi, a previously mentioned source, pp. 65-66.

Synthetic drugs: They are chemical compounds made by humans in medical laboratories and are called (drugs), including sedatives, hypnotics, stimulants and analgesics, and they have different medical names.

- Classification of drugs according to their effects:
Inhibitors: from aphuooum and its derivatives
Stimulants: amphetamines, khat, cocaine
Hallucinogens: mescaline, lactobacillus, cannabis
Hypnotics: barbiturates, benzodiazepines
- Classification of drugs according to the World Health Organization:
Cocaine-amphetamine stimulants
Sedatives (depressants) morphine, heroin, barbiturates
hallucinogens cannabis marijuana
Second: sustainable development and its goals
First: - development

It is a planned voluntary growth process that is reached through certain procedures and measures represented by programs, plans and policies aimed at achieving certain rates of growth⁽⁹⁾. Or it is a conscious societal process that is viewed as a conscious and permanent community process directed according to an independent national will in order to create structural transformations and bring about political, social and economic changes that allow for a steady growth of the capabilities of the concerned community and a continuous improvement of the quality of life in it⁽¹⁰⁾.

Sustainable development

The concept of sustainable development arose as a result of what was produced by development policies and under the pretext of achieving human well-being and hopes, especially in developed countries, consciously or unconsciously, results that negatively reflected on all the progress achieved by man, represented in environmental deterioration such as loss of the ozone layer, desertification, loss of biodiversity and depletion of depleted resources. Land erosion and low productivity, in addition, resulted in social problems represented by the increase in poverty rates, the spread of deadly diseases, malnutrition, illiteracy and others. Thus, the adoption of environmental and social considerations became part of the data that builds the design of development policies to achieve sustainable development⁽¹¹⁾. The term sustainable development gained great global attention after the emergence of the report of the Brundtland Commission, Our Common Future, which was prepared by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987. The first definition of sustainable development was formulated in this report as development that meets the current needs without

⁽⁹⁾Dr. Adnan Makki Abdullah, Development and Regional Planning, Dar al-Kutub for Printing and Publishing, Mosul, 1991, p. 24.

⁽¹⁰⁾Bouziane El-Ajjal and others, Sustainable development: Determinants and challenges, University of Mostaganem, Algeria, p. 4. Research published on the website <https://www.asjp.cerist.dz/en/downArticle/276/4/6/7849>

⁽¹¹⁾Dr. Ammari Ammar, the problem of sustainable development and its dimensions, University of Setif, Algeria, International Conference: Sustainable development and the efficiency of the use of available resources, 2008, p. Research published on the website <http://eco.univ-setif.dz/seminars/article.php?id=197>

compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs⁽¹²⁾. The human being has been the focus of the definitions presented on sustainable development, and according to the Human Development Report issued by the United Nations Development Program, "Men, women and children should be the focus of attention, so development is woven around people, not people around development, for the present and future generations." In order to confront the threats facing the environmental environment, sustainable development proposes a world in which the phenomena of poverty, inequality, plunder of nature, and deviations of scientific progress disappear from our societies, so that present and future generations can benefit from nature's resources⁽¹³⁾.

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development: It includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 subsequent goals in order to address the challenges of globalization based on the three components of sustainable development, namely the environment, society and the economy. It allows organizing activities around five pillars, namely planet Earth, population, prosperity, peace and partnerships. Countries members of the United Nations at the Sustainable Development Summit that was held in New York in 2015. It entered into force on January 1, 2016⁽¹⁴⁾

The second topic: The size, causes and effects of the drug problem

The size of the drug phenomenon and its spread in the world

It is difficult to determine the size of the drug problem in an accurate statistical manner, because it is one of the societal phenomena that control the process of its spread by many factors, some of which are related to the efficiency of drug-fighting men and others are related to the methods of family upbringing, the economic, health and educational conditions, and the effectiveness of the methods of preventive education programs against the danger of drugs. The United Nations estimates that 1 in 20 adults, between the ages of 15 and 64, used at least one drug in 2014, which means more than a quarter of a billion people, specifically 247 million, a number that is huge, did not witness a noticeable increase during the past four years.⁽¹⁵⁾

On the Arab level, the Arab countries are part of the system of developing countries in the world, in which the phenomenon of drug spread has become rampant and threatens their peoples and economies at their individual,

(12)Randa Deeb, Suleiman Muhanna, Planning for Sustainable Development, Damascus University Journal of Engineering Sciences, Volume Twenty-fifth - Number One, Damascus, 2009, pg. 488.

(13)Elias Abou Jaoude, sustainable development and its social, economic and environmental dimensions.

(14)Research published on the website. <http://nsdsguidelines.paris21.org/ar/node>
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Report of the State Narcotics Control Board, 2016 pp. 3-4.

(15)Hamid Yasser Al-Yasiri, The phenomenon of drugs and transnational organized crime, a study in the geography of politics, Journal of Geographical Research, Issue (21), Iraq, p. 264.

community, national and regional levels and drains development efforts, and that drug trade in them uses about (5%) of the free currencies circulated in Illicit markets in Egypt are estimated to be spent annually by drug dealers at about 3 billion Egyptian pounds, and the most serious problem has appeared in the Arab Gulf countries, which suffer from the spread of the phenomenon of illicit trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances due to the high standard of living in it and its enjoyment of a state of relative stability In addition to its geographical location, which made it a crossroads of production and consumption countries, it has become consuming countries for many types of drugs that it enters illegally through its land, sea and air ports⁽¹⁶⁾.

The Arab Gulf region has been exploited in recent years as one of the main transit points for drug smugglers from the Golden Crescent region (Pakistan, Iran, and Afghanistan) to Western Europe, and this has led to the influx of large quantities of drugs from the producing countries to the Arabian Gulf region⁽¹⁷⁾. The following table shows the arrested persons in the Arab countries according to their nationalities during the years 2011-2012.

Table (1) shows the persons arrested in the Arab countries according to their nationalities during the years 2011-2012

2012					2011				The state
the total	not specified	foreigners	Arabs	citizens	the total	foreigners	Arabs	citizens	
65		26	530	5948	6448	23	630	5795	the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
3298	3298								United Arab Emirates
947		112	352	483	808	51	301	456	Bahrain
3812		18	204	3599					Republic of Tunisia
11780		82	13	11685	6155	74	16	6065	People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
									Republic of Djibouti
41334		1370	9273	30691	38,660	2133	7789	28,738	Saudi Arabia
11599		192	59	11348	9685	104	38	9543	Republic of Sudan
									Syrian Arab Republic
									somalia
1229		4	1	1224	1188	2	1	1185	The Republic of Iraq

⁽¹⁶⁾United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Report of the State Narcotics Control Board, 2016 pp. 3-4.

⁽¹⁷⁾Muhammad bin Misfer Al-Dughaish, the role of women in drug prevention in Saudi society, published Master's thesis, Naif Arab University for Security Sciences, College of Graduate Studies, 2010, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, p. 38.

35580		14	135	35431					The Egyptian Arabic Republic
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Source: Ahmed Al-Arousi Howeti, The Arab Strategy for Drug Control, an evaluation study, Riyadh, 2015, p. 123.

The following table shows the distribution of arrested persons in the Arab countries according to their criminal classification during the year 2011.

Table (2) shows the distribution of arrested persons in the Arab countries according to their criminal classification during the year 2011

their criminal classification										The state
the total	Uncategorized	addict	promoter	transporter	funded	merchant	trafficker	Factory	Farmer	
6448	0	5115	0	0	0	1333	0	0	0	the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
										United Arab Emirates
808	0	497	283	0	0	3	25	0	0	Bahrain
										Republic of Tunisia
6155	0	3891	0	0	0	2206	57	0	1	People's Democratic Republic of Algeria
										Republic of Djibouti
38,660	73	27617	6284	0	0	0	4686	0	0	Saudi Arabia
9685	347	5907	2033	0	139	1259	0	0	0	Republic of Sudan
										Syrian Arab Republic
										somalia
1188	0	648	109	3	0	418	2	0	8	The Republic of Iraq
1224	0	945	0	0	0	187	91	0	1	Sultanate of Oman

Source: Ahmed Al-Arousi Howeti, The Arab Strategy for Drug Control, an evaluation study, Riyadh, 2015, p. 131.

The data of Table No. (1) shows that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia leads the Arab countries in the number of people arrested in cases of narcotics and psychotropic substances by 33%, followed by the Arab Republic of Egypt with 29%, Algeria with 9.6%, and Sudan with 9%. The data of Table (2) reveals the same result that we reached in analyzing the data of Table No. (1), as abuse remains one of the

most crimes committed by the arrested persons during the year 2012 AD, with 76,015 people.

As for the crime of trafficking in narcotics and psychotropic substances, it ranked second during 2012 with 23,184, while the crime of promotion ranked third with 10,549, and finally, the crime of smuggling with 5,246 people⁽¹⁸⁾ As for Iraq, it is difficult to determine the extent of the problem, but it can be inferred that its size in Iraqi society can be found through some statistical indicators issued by the Ministry of Health on addiction cases. The included governorates were (10) governorates, the number of males was (1410) and the number of females (52) and in tables (3, 4) a detailed presentation of the results⁽¹⁹⁾.

Table (3) shows that the volume of drug abuse in Iraq has increased dramatically, reaching the equivalent of 1462 addicts, and Baghdad is the leader in drug abuse, as it recorded the highest percentage among the governorates, as the number of addicts reached 468 cases, of which 26 cases are females, representing 50% as shown in the following table (2).

Table (3) Distribution of cases by sex for the year 2008

the total	% percentage	female	% percentage	male	Governorate
468	50	26	31.3	442	Baghdad
329	—	—	23.3	329	Basra
249	—	—	17.6	249	Najaf
119	—	—	8.4	119	Babylon
108	11.6	6	7.3	102	Karbala
81	—	—	5.7	81	Dhi Qar
61	36.5	19	3.1	42	Diyala
24	—	—	1.7	24	Double
22	—	1	1.5	21	Diwanayah
1	1.9	—	0.1	1	Kirkuk
1462	100	52	100	1410	the total

Source: Basima Kazar Hassan, The Impact of Drugs on Economic Security in Basra, University of Basra, Basra Studies Center, Al-Ghari Journal of Economic and Administrative Sciences, Year Nine, Issue Twenty Seven, p. 43. Available at <http://www.docudesk.com>

The percentage of males was much higher than females in Iraq (96.4) versus (3.6), respectively, and this reflects the prevailing social values, as there is severe control over girls, especially young single women. It is worth mentioning that there are no specific data available on the extent of drug prevalence among females in Basra, as shown in the table Previous. It was followed by Basra governorate, where 329 cases of addiction were recorded, and Najaf, a third, 249 in 2008, followed by the rest of the governorates, while Kirkuk governorate recorded only 1 drug abuser, and this is due to the size of the population, as

⁽¹⁸⁾Dr. Ahmed Al-Arousi Hweiti, a previously mentioned source, p. 131.

⁽¹⁹⁾Basima Kazar Hassan, The Effect of Drugs on Economic Security in Basra, University of Basra, Basra Studies Center, Al-Ghari Journal of Economic and Administrative Sciences, Year Nine, Issue 27, p. 43. Available at <http://www.docudesk.com>

Baghdad is the most populous in Iraq, followed by Basra and Najaf. And 350 cases of drug addiction in Basra during the years 2007 and 2008 respectively, with percentages of 23.3 and 21.2, noting that the number of addiction cases in Baghdad was 556 cases, 468 cases and percentages of 21.2 and 23.3⁽²⁰⁾

The results of the "Iraqi National Household Survey of Alcohol and Drug Abuse" adjusted for unequal sex distribution indicate: -

- The self-reported "current" and lifetime use of non-prohibited drugs (2.5%, 1.2%), illicit drugs (0.4%, 0.2%).
- The percentage of current drug abuse among females, both prohibited and non-prohibited, was zero.
- The rates of drug abuse during life among males (4.3%) and prohibited (0.7%) were higher than the previous reports.
- The rates of using non-prohibited and prohibited drugs were low, based on self-report, and saliva examination confirmed these results.
- There are observations about the existence of a large use of prohibited and non-prohibited drugs in southern Iraq. When participants from the southern region were asked if they "knew a person who takes a certain drug," the percentage of participants who knew people who abused was very large, and the number of people they knew was large.

Steroids are the most commonly abused non-prohibited drug, followed by benzodiazepines and benzohexol. There is concern about the increase in the abuse of tramadol in the northern region. Cannabis is the most widely abused prohibited drug, but there is a presence of stimulants (amphetamine-like and Captagon-like stimulants) in southern Iraq.

- The rates of using certain drugs during life were interesting in three governorates, where 20% of male participants from Dhi Qar governorate reported using steroids during life, and in Maysan governorate, benzodiazepine abuse was high among both males and females.
- Among the special population groups, only people newly released from prison reported using alcohol and drugs at higher rates than in the sample of the household survey. As 19% of the members of this group reported that they had used alcohol during their life and 11% had used any drug.

Although there is no previous survey for direct comparison with it, comparison of the survey results with previous reports of the National Mental Health Survey and the meetings of the Iraqi Community Epidemiological Working Group indicates that alcohol and drug abuse is on the rise in Iraq.

⁽²⁰⁾Basima Kazar Hassan, a previously mentioned source, p. 43.

* A survey conducted in 2015 with a grant by the US State Department, the International Office for Drugs and the Rule of Law, and implemented by the Center for Human Services in partnership with the Iraqi Society for Addiction Medicine, the College of Medicine, University of Baghdad and the University of California, and survey data were collected from 3,200 Iraqi citizens, in addition to 300 questionnaires collected From people in three special population groups, al-Hawasim, IDPs, and newly released prisoners, data from members of the armed forces were not available due to the involvement of the Iraqi army in large-scale military operations.

The rates of drug and alcohol abuse are higher in the northern and southern regions of Iraq.

- The rates of using illegal drugs during life were higher among the younger participants (18-34 years), the less educated (below elementary) and the unemployed.
- The most common reason for drug and alcohol abuse in Iraq is that drugs and alcohol allow people to forget their problems, reduce stress and depression and help them socialize with friends.
- With regard to the availability of drugs and alcohol, the focus group with the surveyors indicated that the availability of drugs and alcohol is increasing, especially in the south (Captagon and crystal methamphetamine) and the north (Tramadol)(1).

US Department of State, International Bureau for Drugs and the Rule of Law, National Household Survey of Drug Abuse in Iraq, Final Report, 2015, p. 57.

While some sources indicate that drug trafficking is destroying the state of childhood in Iraq, it is estimated that there are more than (1,000) children in Baghdad governorate alone who are addicted to drugs, as Iraq has become a transit station for drug trafficking, or is classified as a transit country according to the Arab Office for Drug Affairs affiliated with To the Council of Arab Interior Ministers, which considered Iraq as a transit country or what is called (transit) to transport heroin produced from Afghanistan and Iran to the countries of Europe, the Arabian Gulf and the Mediterranean. A big move to Iraq with the participation of international gangs based on a well-organized network and equipped with great potentials to flood the country ⁽²¹⁾.

Drug trade in the world

Drugs come in third place in the ranking of the most profitable trade in the world, and what increases the volume of drug profits every year is the significant increase in the number of drug addicts around the world⁽²²⁾ The volume of drug trade in the world is estimated at \$800 billion annually, or 8% of the global trade volume, and the financial returns from cocaine alone amount to \$85 billion, and the volume of drug trade in the European Union has crossed the \$100 billion threshold.

Among the drug-producing countries are Afghanistan, which exports 90% of global production, and Pakistan, Iran, Turkey and Tajikistan, all of which are Islamic countries. There are also Arab countries such as Lebanon, Syria, and Morocco (the first producer of hashish in the world), as well as other countries such as India and some countries Asian⁽²³⁾. Trafficking affects 170 countries and territories, and the strongest growth in trafficking in the nineties was for

⁽²¹⁾Hamid Yasser Al-Yasiri, a previously mentioned source, p. 262.

⁽²²⁾Abdo Kamel Al-Taifi, a previously mentioned source, p. 151.

⁽²³⁾Hamid Yasser Al-Yasiri, a previously mentioned source, p. 265

amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), and the trade is concentrated regionally as follows:

- Cocaine and marijuana in the Americas.
- Opioids in Asia and Europe.
- Cannabis in Europe.
- Amphetamine-type stimulants in Asia and Europe⁽²⁴⁾.

Reasons for drug abuse⁽²⁵⁾:-

The causes of drug abuse can be attributed to:

- a. To obtain pleasure or pleasure, and as is known, this situation is always illusory and temporary.
- b. Unsuitable social and family conditions such as: family disintegration or deviation of one of the parents, bad companionship and wrong habits.
- c. Escape from some of life's pressures and hardships and from some manifestations of personal or social misalignment at home, school or work.
- d. In addition, the parents' rejection of the child or adolescent, the father's evasion of his responsibilities, the lack of parental ambitions regarding the child's future, and the occurrence of ongoing conflicts between them in front of children or adolescents.
- e. The low religious scruples of the individual and the failure of the family, school or society to appropriately highlight the religious orders and prohibitions related to drugs.
- f. Bad handling by some media about the issue of drugs and their abuse, as we leave the opportunity for non-specialists to talk about it in an unscientific manner.

As for the reasons that led to the increase in the use of narcotic and addictive substances in Iraq⁽²⁶⁾:

- a. The current situation of the country in terms of social and economic change, ease of availability of material, weak control over supply and sales outlets, as well as weakness in the application of the law against transgressors.
- b. The political conditions that the country experienced, including wars, destruction of all kinds, and economic blockades, which resulted in hunger, poverty and deprivation. These children are fertile ground and a suitable field for misdemeanours, crime, alcohol and drug abuse.
- c. The state of security instability and loss of safety and the consequent feeling of fear and anxiety at times and despair and depression at other times.
- d. The geographical location of Iraq and its surrounding countries that produce, cultivate and suffer from major problems in the field of drug spread, such as Afghanistan, Iran and the Gulf, which makes the country vulnerable to many related issues such as transit and illicit drug trafficking.
- e. Weakness in effective preventive programs in this field.

⁽²⁴⁾Abdo Kamel Al-Taifi, a previously mentioned source, p. 153

⁽²⁵⁾Khaled Hamad Al-Mohannadi, a previously mentioned source, p. 64.

⁽²⁶⁾Wassan Abdul-Hussein Sharbaji, a previously mentioned source, pp. 14-15.

- f. Unemployment and the lack of suitable job opportunities for a large segment of society, especially the young generation and adolescents.

Effects of drug abuse and addiction

There is no doubt that drug abuse is a serious social scourge that consumes lives and bodies, and that it has psychological, social and economic effects on the abuser, his family and society, and these effects include:

1- Health effects⁽²⁷⁾:

- Feeling sick and vomiting.
- Excessive sweating, yellowing of the face, dizziness and drowsiness.
- Drop in blood circulation and enlargement of the heart muscle.
- Pulmonary infections, hepatitis, cirrhosis and kidney failure.
- Weak appetite, brain cell damage, and consequently loss of memory and reason,
- Infection with AIDS, cancerous tumors, nerve paralysis, muscle disease and hepatic stroke.

2- Social effects⁽²⁸⁾:-

- Social immaturity (introversion, immoral acts, illegal behavior).
- Frequent failure in school stages, frequent running away from work, and academic tardiness in general.
- Frequent absences, quarrels at work, and lack of interest in appearance.
- Lack of will and lack of enthusiasm, which leads to a lack of activity to achieve normal, familiar duties. Laziness, superficial thinking, distrust of them, their neglect of their duties, their quick emotions and the perversion of their moods. Often, the abuser is expelled from his work or financially rewarded.

3- Psychological effects:

- Feeling of persecution, depression, isolation and nervous tension, despite his feeling of comfort and false happiness at the beginning of his use.
- Auditory, visual and sensory hallucinations (hearing voices and seeing things that do not exist and fantasies) and thus feeling fear.
- Loss of mind and insanity.
- Violence, aggression, and inefficiency at work.

4- Economic effects:

- A decrease in the productivity of the individual and thus leads to a decrease in the productivity of society.
- Weakness in the abuser's confrontation with the reality of life, which leads to a decrease in his productivity and hinders him in developing his skills and abilities.
- The spread of drugs leads to huge financial costs for combating addiction and caring for addicts.
- Illegal trade requires many efforts and works, employees, equipment, means of transport and communications, which costs the state a great deal of expenses that many developing countries are unable to do.

⁽²⁷⁾Dr. Abdo Kamel Al-Taifi, a previously mentioned source, pp. 78-84.

⁽²⁸⁾United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Report of the State Narcotics Control Authority, 2013, p. 3.

- Drug abuse affects the movement of capital within a single country.
- Narcotics are like other commodities from an economic point of view, the illegal promotion of which leads to disruption in the structure of the state's economy, through money laundering and the transfer of hard currencies outside the country.
- The increase in the expenses of treating the abuser affects the production structure.
- The high costs of prevention and treatment, which not everyone can obtain, as every dollar invested in treatment results in a return of between 4-12 dollars from the costs of crime and health care⁽²⁹⁾.
- The cost of visits to hospitals by drug users is high costs incurred by society.
- People under the influence of drugs cause great risks and costs to the safety of those around them and to their environment. Such as the emergence of accidents caused by driving under the influence of drugs as a major global threat in recent years.

5- Security implications: -

Security implications include:

A: Illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and terrorism

There are strong links and deep ties between illicit drug trafficking and terrorism, as they threaten the security of countries and affect the stability and tranquility of peoples. The global terrorist network is linked to three other criminal networks: the arms smuggling network, the drug smuggling network, and the money laundering network. This necessitates addressing all of these networks effectively and at the same time, in order to achieve positive results in favor of the fight.

- The most important manifestations of the relationship between illicit drug trafficking and terrorism are the following⁽³⁰⁾:
- Funds derived from illegal drug trafficking constitute the most important source of financing terrorist operations.
- International gangs for illegal drug trafficking use terrorist elements to secure and protect their sinful trade in return for huge sums of money not less than 10% of the profits of the illegal trade.
- Terrorist elements may resort to drug smuggling operations on behalf of the perpetrators of illegal trafficking crimes and thus obtain more huge sums of money, which provides cash liquidity to terrorist organizations enabling them to carry out terrorist activities in many regions of the world.
- Some studies indicate that most terrorist elements abuse narcotics or psychotropic substances, which makes them keen to link to the criminal elements of the illicit trade in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, who fear their tyranny and the power of their shares, so they provide them with narcotics and psychotropic substances in exchange for providing security and protection for them and their trade.

B: Illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and organized crime It is universally known that drug trafficking is one of the most dangerous forms of organized crime, as it transcends borders and requires careful, complex and large-scale planning. To what the huge funds resulting from drug trafficking

⁽²⁹⁾1.United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Report of the International Narcotics Control Board, 2013, pp. 2-4.

⁽³⁰⁾Abdo Kamel Al-Taifi, a previously mentioned source, p. 211.

cause in strengthening the influence of gangs and recruiting the necessary elements for them to achieve their goals in corrupting institutions and undermining the unity and security of society⁽³¹⁾.

The third topic: the global drug problem and sustainable development goals The world drug problem is intertwined with all aspects of sustainable development, and the analysis of the drug problem, and ways to address it, from the perspective of development goals, reveals the mechanisms of this interaction, as the seventeen areas of sustainable development determine All of them are the nature and dynamics of the drug problem. At the same time, the impact of the drug problem, and ways to address it, on development can be seen at the individual, community and national levels. When reviewing the goals, we find that:

First: The first goal: "Eradicate poverty in all its forms everywhere." Poverty has strong links with drug use, albeit in a complex and mutually reinforcing manner. In fact, it is the poor who bear the brunt of the drug abuse problem for the societies in which they live, as can be starkly observed in richer countries. More generally, there is a strong association between social and economic deprivation and substance use disorders, and this pattern can also be observed When looking into the various manifestations of marginalization and social exclusion, such as unemployment and low levels of education⁽³²⁾.

Second: The second goal: "End hunger, provide food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture." The cultivation of drugs greatly affects the legitimate crops. In Yemen, for example, the Yemeni Studies and Research Center indicated that the areas occupied by qat cultivation amount to 15% of the best and most fertile lands, and that it is constantly expanding at the expense of the lands allocated for the cultivation of coffee, vegetables and fruits, which leads to the frustration of development programs and paralyze the economic movement⁽³³⁾. In Lebanon, the area allocated to poppy cultivation, from which opium is extracted, and thus heroin, in Lebanon amounted to four thousand hectares in 1985 AD. The huge profits generated by this agriculture⁽³⁴⁾.

Third: The third goal: "Ensuring that everyone enjoys healthy lifestyles and prosperity at all ages." Target 3-5 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development requires governments to strengthen prevention and treatment of drug abuse, and a range of other goals are specifically related to drug control, especially goal 3.3 related to eradicating the AIDS epidemic and combating hepatitis C, and goal 3 4 related to the prevention of non-diseases. Communicable (non-communicable), treatment and promotion of mental health, target 3-8

(31)Hilal Aoun - Alaa El-Din Muhammad, Terrorism and Drugs.. Organic Link and Two Faces to One Operator, 2017, Research published on the website <http://www.alboselh.net/node/>

(32)United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, aforementioned source, 2013, p. 5.

(33)Sami bin Khaled bin Mahmoud, Research on the dangers of drugs in religious, health, social and security terms, research published on the website alwatanvoice.com/articles/2007

(34)Moaz Subhi Muhammad Aliwi, Drug Abuse: Social and Economic Causes and Effects, Arab Democratic Center, Palestine, research published on the website <http://www.Democratic.de>

related to achieving universal health coverage, and target 3-b related to access to essential medicines⁽³⁵⁾.

Fourth: The Fifth Goal: "Achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls" Achieving gender equality and empowering women and girls will make a decisive contribution to making progress towards achieving all goals and objectives. There is no way to achieve full human potential and achieve sustainable development if half of humanity remains deprived of the full enjoyment of human rights and opportunities due to it. Therefore, the goal of achieving equality Gender and women's empowerment is not only a separate goal, but is a critical and cross-cutting development issue⁽³⁶⁾.

Fifth: The tenth goal: "Reduce inequality within and between countries." Not accepting or understanding that drug dependence is a health condition fuels the cycle of marginalization that often affects people with substance use disorders, making their recovery and social integration more difficult. Moreover, it can affect the delivery of effective treatment to those who need it most⁽³⁷⁾.

Sixth: The sixteenth goal: "Encouraging the establishment of peaceful societies in which no one is marginalized in order to achieve sustainable development." The use of illegal drugs is closely related to crime and in multiple ways, drug users often resort to the crime of possession in order to finance their habit, and many criminals commit their crime under the influence of illegal drugs, and the use of illegal drugs is associated with behavioral problems, which may include, according to the substance addiction. And the amount taken, including assault or violence, and if the person suffers from behavioral disorders and has an aggressive personality, this makes him vulnerable to involvement in the commission of crime, and often the rates of drug use among criminals are much higher than in the rest of the individuals⁽³⁸⁾.

Eighth: The seventeenth goal: "Strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development." There is a strong link between SDG 17 and the principles of international cooperation and shared responsibility, embodied in drug control agreements, but the analysis of donor development assistance and donor assistance in drug-related sectors combined reveals two opposite trends, official development assistance has increased In general, while aid in drug-related sectors has declined significantly since 2008⁽³⁹⁾.

Fourth topic: solutions and suggestions

⁽³⁵⁾World Health Organization, Executive Board, Report of the 138th Session, The public health dimension of the world drug problem, including in the context of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the world drug problem to be held in 2016, pp. 2-3.

⁽³⁶⁾Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Equality in the New Global Agenda: Integrating a Gender Perspective in the Implementation of Sustainable Development Goals 1.2 in the Arab Region, p. 1.

⁽³⁷⁾Report of the State Narcotics Control Board, 2016, p. 20.

⁽³⁸⁾Khaled Hamad Al-Mohannadi, a previously mentioned source, pp. 120-121.

⁽³⁹⁾United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Report of the State Narcotics Control Board, 2016, p.3

Drug abuse and addiction threaten the structure of society because of its economic, social and security effects, which necessitates the inclusion of the priorities of combating drug abuse and addiction within the policies and objectives of the state. Since the public interest requires the concerted efforts of state institutions and civil society to carry out their duties towards this phenomenon in accordance with the plans and strategies drawn to accommodate the nature and size of the problem with all its data, it is important to cooperate with other relevant bodies such as Education and the Ministry of Youth, and all governmental and local agencies working in the field of social construction. Coordination with the media, in order to combat drug abuse and addiction, and to provide awareness to citizens on a scientific basis against their economic, social and health damages according to a national program to combat drugs, and the following is a proposal for part of the solutions to address this problem:-

- Dissemination of information warning of the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace through the inspection committees of the department through inspection visits.
- Building the capacities of labor inspectors and leadership cadres through awareness sessions and workshops, and providing them with information on the drug issue.
- Coordinating and activating the role of professional syndicates in working to raise awareness of drug addiction.
- Employing young people by finding suitable job opportunities for them, as the widening problem of unemployment in society leads to some young people resorting to drug abuse, through various credit programs.
- Accurate targeting of families suffering from poverty and deprivation, which are more vulnerable than others to drug abuse and addiction cases.
- Inclusion of drug prevention in the conditional aid program.
- Empowering vulnerable groups, especially women, through the programs offered by the Women's Department, especially social empowerment and psychological support programmes.
- Include in life skills courses the topic of preventing the risk of drug abuse and addiction.
- Training in occupations required by the labor market to ensure that the unemployed acquire the professional skills that enable them to obtain productive job opportunities and keep them away from unemployment, as well as rehabilitate those who have recovered from the problem of drug addiction.
- Addressing the problem of (homeless children) and beggars as victims in need of attention and care, and that their rehabilitation and reintegration into society is one of the forms of limiting the dangers they may cause to society, due to the high percentage of drug abuse among these children.
- Building the capacities of psychological and social researchers, teachers, supervisors, and all those who deal with children, in shelter institutions or in the field of training children in the skills of analyzing problems and choosing appropriate alternatives from solutions, and supporting their confidence in their abilities to deal with pressures and successfully overcome them.

- Coordination and cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Education and universities, especially specialized departments such as sociology, psychology, psychological counseling and educational guidance, as well as other research centers to conduct research to determine the extent of the phenomenon of drug addiction, in order to identify the causes of the phenomenon and the extent of its spread, and thus provide institutions with a database that facilitates them. Take the necessary measures to combat this phenomenon.

Conclusions

- a. The drug problem is a complex global problem with intertwined dimensions that harm the individual, the family, the society and the state. They are produced in one country and consumed in a second country passing through a third.
- b. The rate of drug abusers of various types has increased in many countries in recent years .
- c. Drug abuse and addiction leads to an infinite set of negative effects, whether on the economic, health, social or security levels .
- d. Drugs are closely related to crimes, the more prevalent drugs are, the more crime is seen in society .
- e. Drug use leads to a significant decrease in individual productivity as well as contributes to widespread unemployment and the spending of much public income on drugs rather than on legitimate goods and services .
- f. Drugs cause additional burdens on countries' budgets and deprive them of progress in the areas of sustainable development. In favor of control, prevention and awareness-raising operations and the money and effort they consume, as well as the impact of drugs and their cultivation on the environment and soil.

Recommendations

- a. Addressing the causes that lead to drug abuse, such as poverty, unemployment and leisure time among young people.
- b. Paying attention to preventive programs to combat drug abuse , as well as strengthening international cooperation to combat the drug problem and limit its spread.
- c. Coordinating efforts to combat and prevent drug crimes and rehabilitating addicts from official authorities and civil society organizations to disseminate awareness programs and publicize the damages of this problem and find effective means to reduce the demand for drugs and everything that can contribute to its prevention.
- d. Developing research capabilities in the Iraqi institutions concerned with the issue of drugs in order to conduct studies and surveys, and to hold an annual national conference on drug abuse to enhance community awareness on the subject.
- e. Training workers in the areas related to drug abuse, addiction and trafficking and building their capacities in this field .
- f. Developing integrated treatment services for addiction and facilitating access to them throughout the country.

- g. Enforcement of laws related to drug control, strengthening their application, and tightening control at border crossings.

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