

Drug, Tobacco and Alcohol Control Department (Lithuania)



Who owns the nightlife?

Prof. dr. Renaldas Čiužas, Director General

dr. Inga Bankauskienė, Head of Psychoactive Substance Use Prevention Coordination Division

Regional discussion, 5th May 2021



Joint initiative Be Safe Lab

- **The aim:** to inform visitors of music festivals about the use of psychoactive substances and risks associated with it objectively
- **Philosophy:** accessibility, immediate communication, confidentiality, objectivity



Working together

6 organizations

50 team members

1 team



Governmental sector

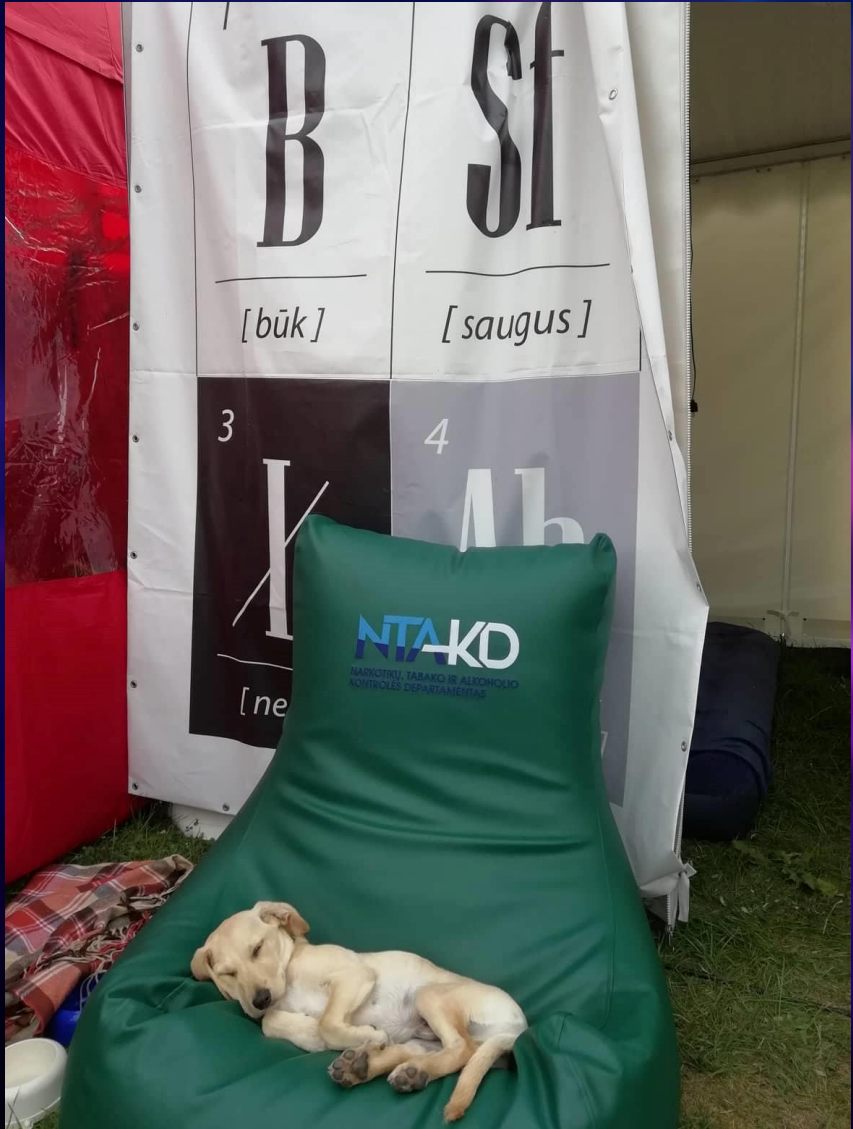
Volunteers



Non-governmental
sector

Business sector

Work starts



- **Cooperation with:**
 - Municipalities
 - Police
 - Ambulance
 - Fire and rescue department
 - Organizers of music festivals
- Training by national and international experts
- Sharing best practice

Spaces: education and psychological help

Information about the effects and risks of psychoactive substances, sexually transmitted diseases, intoxicated driving etc.



Professional psychological help provided 24 hours per day



Package of services

- Information (leaflets, consulting)
- Rapid HIV tests
- Alcohol intoxication testing
- Psychological help
- Drinking water
- Condoms
- Safe place to be:
 - Immediate and non-threatening communication
 - Being together



Open discussions

Honest

Evidence-based

Unbiased



“Inconvenient”
questions

Reasonable
and objective
answers



Sharing

2017–2020 results

4 years

7 different festivals

7 different locations

15 events

Almost 40 000 visitors

2017–2020 results

3 % took rapid HIV test

15 % tested alcohol intoxication

52 % visited educational space

79 % took free condoms

310 visited psychological help space

Where are we going?

Coverage and quality:

- Cooperation development (new music festivals, venues and partners)
- Development of Be Safe Lab activities including other recreational venues and settings (night clubs, bars etc.)
- Permanent training of Be Safe Lab team
- Trainings for specialists from law enforcement agencies and other interested parties

Evaluation:

- Reflections from visitors of music festivals
- Identification of needs





Be Safe Lab