ALL DRESSED UP AND NOWHERE TO GO
THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC SPACE FOR
YOUNG PEOPLE AND WOMEN
The Problem
The pervasive presence of alcohol makes public spaces less safe, less inclusive, less enabling and less diverse. Especially youth and women are excluded from life happening in the public realm because of alcohol-induced risks.

The Solution
Promoting safe, inclusive, enabling and diverse public spaces to help build healthy cities for sustainable development – through evidence-based alcohol policy measures.
Benefits of addressing alcohol harm through the New Urban Agenda

The New Urban Agenda must engender evidence-based alcohol policy-making to help create more inclusive, safer, more enabling and diverse public spaces.

INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACE. HEALTHY YOUTH
- Prevent alcohol harm
- Foster young people’s growth
- Shape young people’s identities as active citizens
- Promote meetings with new people, perspectives
- Experience community and civic engagement
- Practice engaging with other opinions
- Practice expressing thoughts and opinions
- Provide youth with agency
- Strengthen democracy

SAFE PUBLIC SPACE. LIBERATED WOMEN
- Prevent alcohol harm
- Promote Women’s Human Rights
- Facilitate equal opportunity
- Remove obstacles for female agency
- Prevent and reduce gender-based violence
- Improve public discourse
- Strengthen local communities
- Strengthen democracy

INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACE. HEALTHY YOUTH
- 21% of adolescents say they only use alcohol because there is nothing else to do during leisure time
- 87% of adolescents agree that alcohol makes public space unsafe. 80% say alcohol-free public space feels safe.
- 55% of adolescents say they stay away from public space because of alcohol.
- High density of alcohol outlets is associated with increased binge use and a range of alcohol harms, such as violence, road traffic injuries or sexually transmitted infections.

SAFE PUBLIC SPACE. LIBERATED WOMEN
- Australia: 40% of all cases of physical and/or sexual assault of women are alcohol-related.
- Europe: 29% of alcohol users in European nightlife used alcohol specifically to facilitate sexual encounters.
- India: infamous gang rape perpetrators are frequently under the influence of alcohol.
- High density of alcohol outlets is associated with increased binge use and a range of alcohol harms, such as violence, road traffic injuries or sexually transmitted infections.

* We conducted a representative YouGov survey among Swedish youth between 16 and 19 years of age.

* Read more about the facts and sources on www.iogt.org
IOGT International is the premier global interlocutor for evidence-based policy measures and community-based interventions to prevent and reduce harm caused by alcohol and other drugs.