

Project Tshube (Botswana)

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Anti-Doping Education and Consideration/Intention of Using Prohibited Substances in Botswana, Zambia, and Papua New Guinea

The objectives of this study are to assess (a) athletes' perceptions of anti-doping education in each of three countries, (b) the impact of anti-doping educational programs, (c) elite athletes' levels of anti-doping knowledge (d) factors related to athletes' perceptions of various substances and their intentions of using them, and (e) examine these variables cross-culturally.

These objectives will be tested longitudinally over a three-year period. To address the stated objectives, a minimum of 250 elite athletes from Botswana, Zambia, and Papua New Guinea will complete surveys. That number is based on the population estimate of roughly 230 athletes in each of the three countries competing in each country's most popular sports at the open international level (total of 690). Quantitative data will be analyzed using basic descriptive statistics, correlations, regressions, and t-tests/ANOVAs.

Descriptive statistics will show the percentages of athletes nominating each of the response categories for the relevant question. Correlations will determine relationships between variables (e.g., relationships between how well athletes report they understood or engaged in anti-doping education and their perceptions of performance enhancing effects and potential harm of various substances, and their consideration/intention of using prohibited substances. Regressions will be used to determine which variables (e.g., format of education, recency of education, nationality, sport) predict perceptions of performance enhancing effects and potential harm of various substances, and their consideration/intention of using prohibited substances. The results will give a contextualized assessment of the current tools effectiveness and the impact of the current anti-doping programs. In addition, the results will inform policy and educational programs.