# Dominica's Report for the DIN

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## **Status of the DIN**

- Over the past two year the DIN met four times
- To review the network report
- Invitation was extended to several other institutions to be part of the network
- Ministry of education, Chances and Operation Youth Quake joined the network.
- Suggestions were made to improve the data collection system in Dominica.
  - i It was suggested the Dominica should use a simple excess or excel data base to capture its data because of the volume and cost.
- With the exception of the annual report no other major report was done.

## **Institutions Contributing to the Network**

- Dominica Police Force
- Financial Intelligence Unit
- Princess Margaret Hospital
- Social welfare
- Chances
- Ministry of Education
- National Drug Abuse Prevention Unit
- Dominica State Prison
- Ministry of Health/ Health Promotions

## **Recent Activities**

- January of 2012 As part of the Drug awareness month celebration the DIN bi-annual Report was officially presented / disseminated to the public.
- Prison Study that was conducted with the full assistance of the OAS office
- Recently conducted surveys
  - Global School Based Student Health Survey
  - i Global Youth Tobacco Survey
  - National Secondary School Drug Survey

- Neither reports have been published or disseminated

## **Recent Activities**

## - Global Status Report on Alcohol and Health

- **i** Dominica ranked fifth in the world per capita in alcohol consumption. Dominica consumed 7.2 liters of alcohol per year. That is hard liquor.
- i The three main drugs of abuse are alcohol, tobacco and marijuana.
- Members of the DIN committee worked with all the secondary schools on the island on a tobacco campaign for World No Tobacco Day
- In progress We are conducting a Community Needs Assessment that in an effort to develop

### **Recent Trends**

- One of the notable increase that we have seen is the number of person seeking medical assistants at the Princess Margaret Hospital
- Increase in seizures of cocaine and cannabis weed by the police for the period 2001

## **Future Plans**

Training for DIN personnel (which is one of our most urgent need)

#### **i** Objectives are as follows

- + To learn the importance of timely and relevant data as it meeting the needs of policy makers and service providers
- + To improve the quality of data to meet the international level.
- To collect data in accordance with sound scientific methodological principles to ensure reliability and validity