



Country Report **Saint Lucia**

Presented at
Regional Workshop on Drug Information Networks (DIN)
August 1-2, 2012

By Cyprian Yarde
Substance Abuse Advisory Council Secretariat

Capacity Building

—Re-activation of the National Substance Abuse Council

- Retreat
 - Regularity of meetings
 - Composition of the Council
-
- New appointments

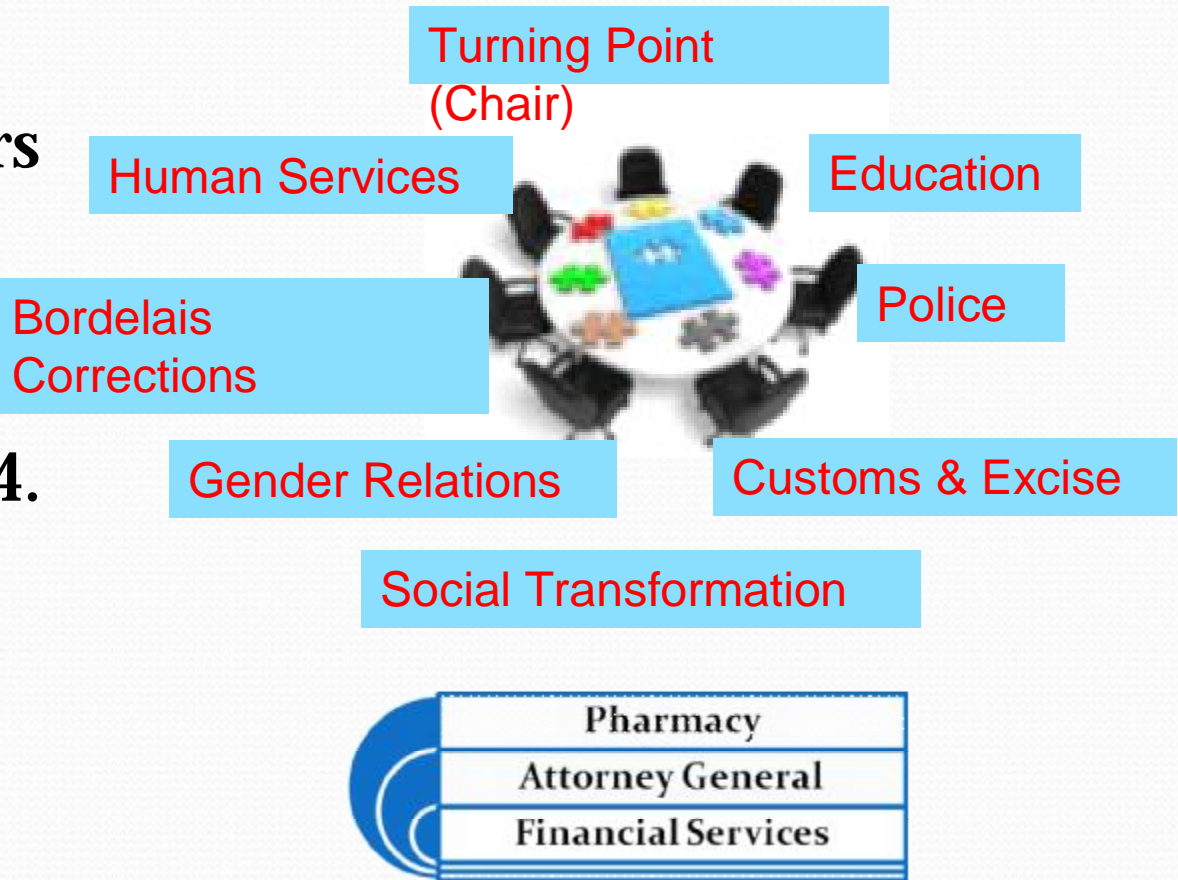


Policy and Strategy

- **Development of National Anti-drug Strategy for Saint Lucia (NADSASS) 2012 – 2017**
 - First draft stage
 - 5th Round MEM report and recommendations valuable to the process

Primary Institutional Players

- SAACS - a Council nominated by the Cabinet of Ministers in accordance with the Drugs (Prevention and Misuse) Act of 2004.

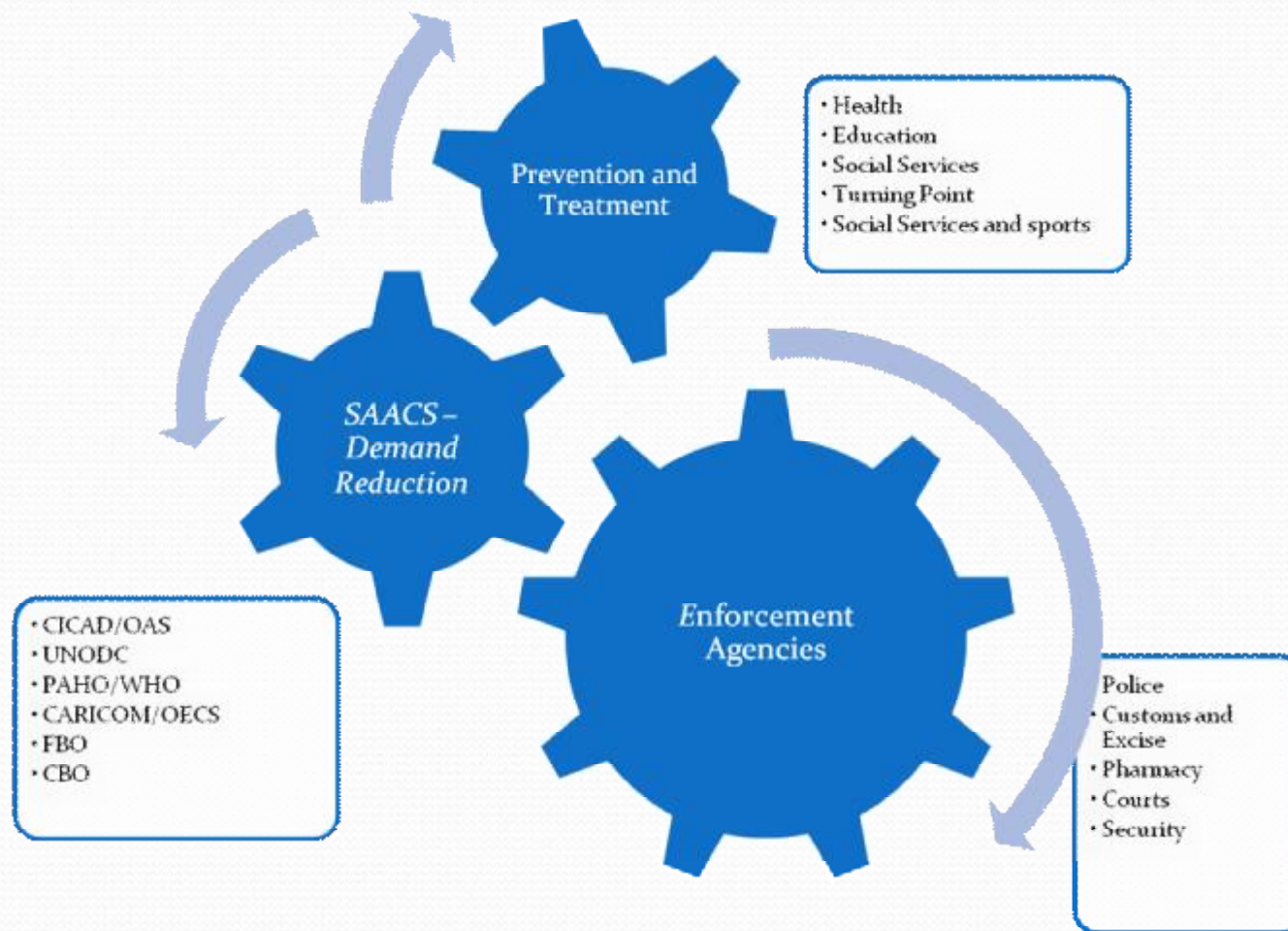




Other Institutional Players

- Ministry of External Affairs
- Chief Medical Officer
- Saint Lucia Statistics Department
- Saint Lucia Air and Sea Ports Authority
- Ministry of Finance (Accountant General Department)
- NGOs and Civil society groups/individuals

How do we do it?



Substance Use Data

Substance use among Secondary School Students in Saint Lucia 2007

Prevalence	Total	Boys	Girls
Percentage of Students who used of Drugs one or more times in lifetime	22.0 ± 3	29.7 ± 4.5	15.8 ± 3.6
Past 30 day use of Alcohol	55.4 ± 4.4	59.2 ± 6.8	52.2 ± 5.5
Percentage of students drunk in lifetime	35.3 ± 3.5	41.5 ± 5.5	30.0 ± 4.7
Percentage of students in deviant behavior due to alcohol	14.7 ± 2.8	15.4 ± 3.8	14.1 ± 3.4
Percentage of Students who used tobacco in past 30 days	7.8 ± 2.1	9.8 ± 3.8	6.2 ± 2.1

Source: Saint Lucia GSHS 2007 Data



Demand Reduction Strategies

- Strengthening of the NATDIN
 - In-country workshop involving key contributors –
June 29, 2012
 - Individual agency/sector meetings
- Development of Alcohol policy
- Development of WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)

Demand Reduction Strategies

- Global Youth Tobacco Initiative
 - Third round of GYTS completed in 2011
 - Data analysis in progress
- Prison Population Survey (*Relationship between drugs and crime*)
 - Sponsored by CICAD
 - Data collection process completed in March 2012
- Behaviour Risk Factor Survey
 - Data collection process: May - August 2012
- Attempt to include substance abuse issues into national disease surveillance activities



Prevention and Treatment

- **Education**
 - Training of Secondary school counselors
 - Building substance abuse into HFLE curriculum
 - School lectures
 - Summer Camp
- **Community campaigns**
 - Camps
 - Drug Free pageant (Saint Lucia Youth Talent on Parade)
 - World No Tobacco Day & International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking
- **Workplace Interventions**

The Way Forward

- Timeframe: 2012-2017
- Highlight shared purpose/mission (*Council's goals in relation to that of member agencies*).
- Targeted policy to allow for better utilization of resources and more effective interventions.
- Respond to the requirement of Articles of Convention and Treaties to which Saint Lucia is a signatory.



Next Steps

- Sustained adolescent drug prevention programme
 - Utilizing data from GYTS, GSHS and input from GS/HFLE
 - Analysis and Report of Prison Study
- Improvement in quality of treatment programmes
- Community education programme
- Completion of Alcohol policy



Next steps

- **Address emerging issues of decriminalization of Cannabis**
- **Implementation of Campaign in support of WHO FCTC - Regulations**

Thank
you!



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Tropical Cyclone Tracking based on TPC guidance released: 00:34z 02-Aug-2012

Updated: 00:34z 02-Aug-2012

