



Organization of
American States

REGIONAL SEMINAR ON DRUG TREATMENT AND DRUG INFORMATION NETWORKS IN THE CARIBBEAN

Drug Information Networks and Standard Indicators

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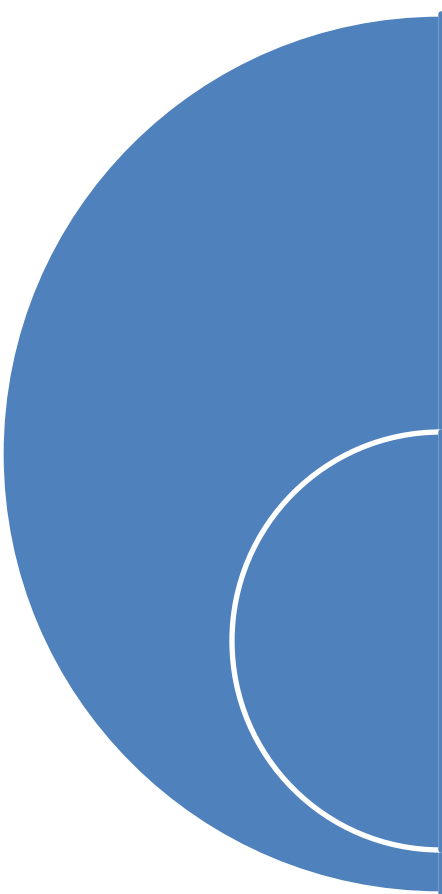


Summary

	Introduction to CICAD and the OID
	Research Infrastructure (the NDO)
	Research Infrastructure (the DIN)
	Standard Indicators for DINS
	Future Plans



Introduction to CICAD

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CICAD was created more than 30 years ago and currently serves the 34 member states of the OAS (Organization of American States)

CICAD's core mission is to strengthen the human and institutional capabilities and harness the collective energy of its member states to reduce the production, trafficking and use and abuse of drugs in the Americas.

Introduction to the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID)

The 'OID' was created in 2000

It is the statistics, information and research unit of
CICAD

It operates at the hemispheric level (i.e. we work to
varying degrees with all countries in the hemisphere)

Its mission is to build a drug information network for
the Americas



The OAS's Mission

To help promote and build a drug information network for the Americas that offers objective, reliable, up-to-date and comparative information so that member states can better understand, design and implement policies and programs to confront the drug phenomenon in all its dimensions.

FUNCTIONS OF THE OID

TO ASSIST MEMBER STATES TO IMPROVE THEIR CAPACITY TO COLLECT AND ANALYSE DRUG STATISTICS

TO ASSIST MEMBER STATES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF DRUG SURVEYS AND OTHER STUDIES

PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORIES AND THE USE OF STANDARDISED DATA AND METHODOLOGIES

FUNCTIONS OF THE OID

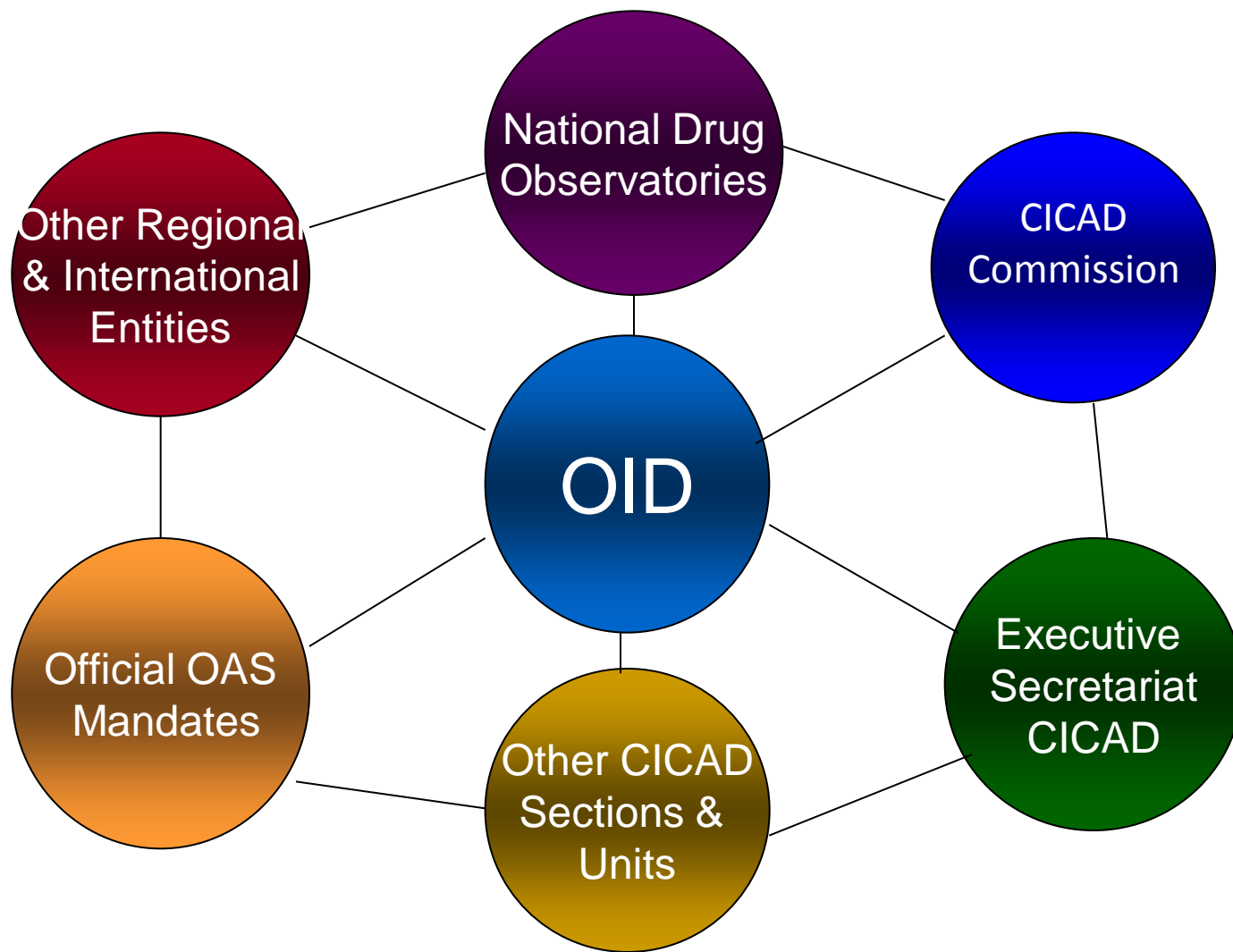
TO GENERATE DRUG INFORMATION THAT IS OBJECTIVE, RELIABLE, UP-TO-DATE, AND COMPARABLE

TO HELP MEMBER STATES TO BETTER UNDERSTAND, DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS TO DEAL WITH THE ADVERSE CONSEQUENCES OF ILLEGAL DRUGS

IN 2016 THE OID BECAME A UNIT THAT IS PART OF A NEW SECTION OF A REORGANIZED CICAD ENTITLED 'EVIDENCE-BASED DRUG POLICIES : INFORMATION, DESIGN, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION, AND DATA ANALYSIS.'



Principal Mechanisms





Drug Observatories and Drug Information Networks in the Americas

Drug Observatory vs. Drug Information Network

Are they one and the same?

Can these terms be used inter-changeably?

Some people still do not understand the difference. Do you?



National Drug Observatory (NDO)





What is a NDO?

A national drug observatory (NDO) is an entity that aims to provide,— for its home country — factual, objective, reliable and comparable information concerning drugs and drug addiction, and their consequences.

The scope of the work of most NDOs usually includes both illicit drugs as well as alcohol, tobacco and other licit drugs.



Objectives of an NDO

to provide its national audiences with the information they need:

- for policymaking;
- to organise drug-related services;
- on drug-related issues of general public interest;

to collect and/or to produce the information needed to fulfil its country's reporting obligations to regional and international monitoring and drug-control programmes.



Core Functions of an NDO

Data collection and monitoring at the national level



Analysis and interpretation of the information collected



Reporting and communication of the results



How do we Support NDOs?

Training and capacity building

Providing technical support for research and other related projects

Providing exposure to regional and international conferences

Horizontal Cooperation

Funding (when available)



Building a national drug observatory: a joint handbook

http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/attachements.cfm/att_118914_FR_EMCDDA-NDO-handbook-fr.pdf



National Drug Information Network (DIN)



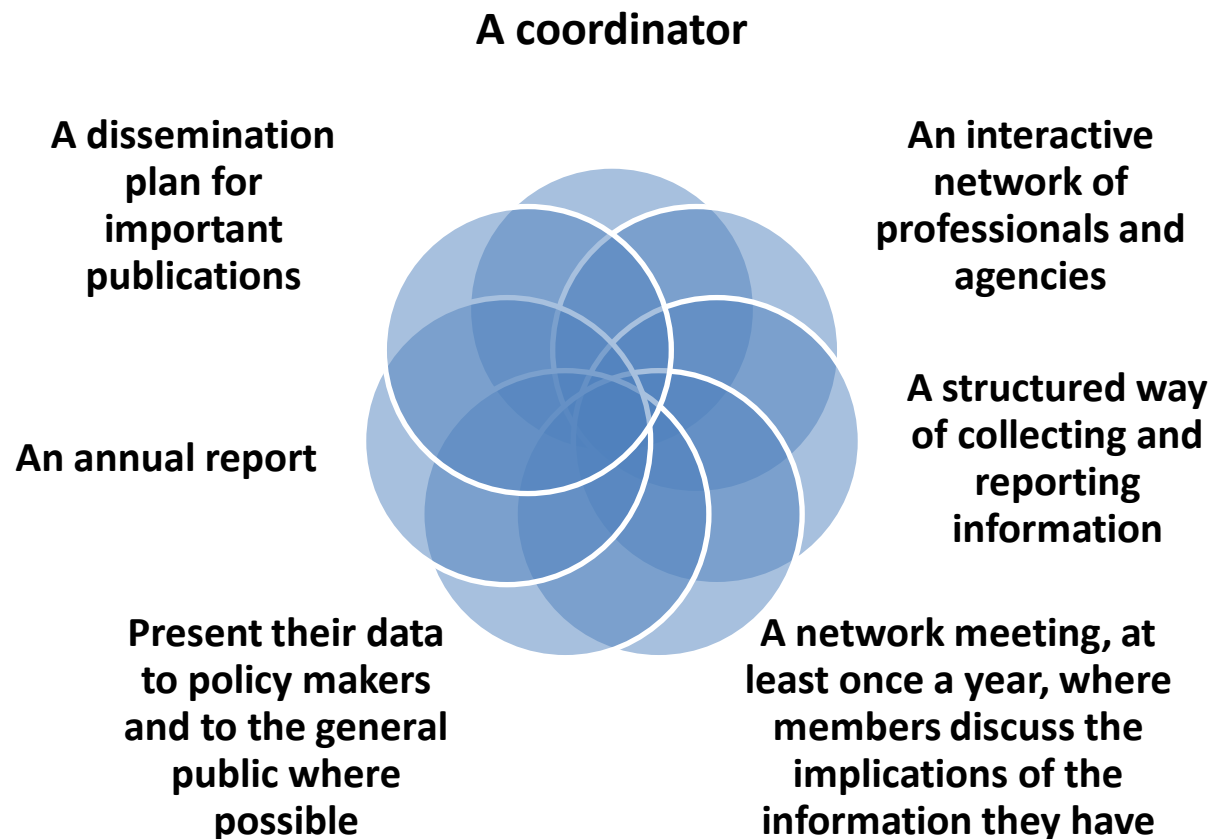


Drug Information Network – A Definition

A drug information network is defined as a group of people from relevant stakeholder agencies or organizations that contribute to the generation, collection, analysis and dissemination of information on drugs for the purpose of monitoring trends, developing policy, and implementing appropriate programs and responses.



Elements of a Drug Information Network





DIN Framework





How do we approach the Development of DINS?

Training

- To introduce participants to the concepts that underpin national drug information networks
- To teach the steps that are required to establish a DIN.
- To examine the elements of a DIN and to see how they work together.
- To provide a set of tools for network coordinators to establish and maintain a network in their respective countries
- To discuss the experiences of other countries' information networks



How do we approach the Development of DINS?

Information Needs and Resources Analysis

- This is a way to create an inventory of potential data sources and provides the tools to assess these data sources.
- The Coordinators should carefully examine what each potential network member brings to the table in terms of data and information, research abilities, ability to communicate, and ability to contribute.



How do we approach the Development of DINS?

Provide
support for
first network
meeting

- This meeting is extremely important since it will serve to introduce members to the *raison d'être* of the network.
- It will also introduce them to the way the network will function, what the inputs and outputs will be, and what the products will be used for.



How do we approach the Development of DINS?

Support the
collection
and analysis
of data &
information

- Treatment center data
- Arrests, seizures, and other law enforcement data
- Drug use statistics from surveys and other research
- Hospital emergency room data
- Forensic Science labs
- Public Health data
- Expert opinion and other qualitative info
- Surveys



How do we approach the Development of DINS?

Support
the
publication
of an
annual
report

- Consultant fees
- Publication support



How do we approach the Development of DINS?

Once the
network is up
and running,
then the
following steps
can be
considered as
the network
matures

- Further standardization of data
- Expanding or changing membership
- Upgrading data systems for network members
- Developing a web-based data system
- More publications (newsletters, research reports, etc)



Expected Outputs from a DIN

- Needs and resources analysis undertaken and report prepared
- Routine data collection and analysis
- Meetings* convened at regular intervals
- Annual Network report

*All meetings should be recorded in some fashion but you should respect confidentiality when it is requested.

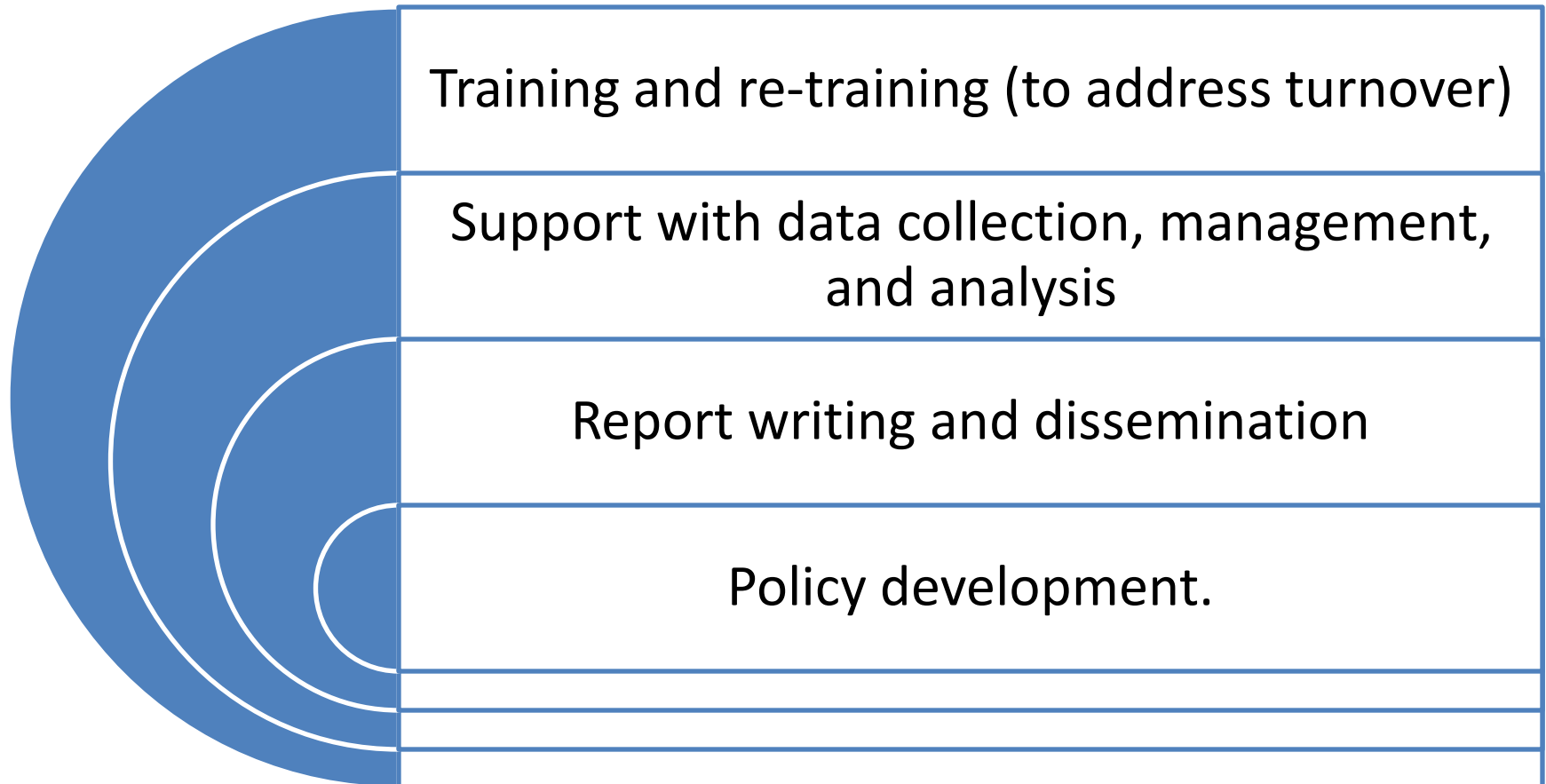


Challenges

- Turnover —————> Lack of Continuity
- Finance
- Lack of coordination in countries
- Lack of Institutional structures in some countries



CICAD On-Going Support for DINs





Our wish list?

That national observatories get the resources that are needed and/or they link with local support agencies like NDOs and universities

That Caribbean countries adopt a standard set of indicators for their drug information networks. More later.....

More countries reach the stage of doing an annual national DIN report on their own.

That Caribbean countries take ownership of the treatment data system.

Key Indicators for DINs



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The OID has developed a guide for DINs across the Caribbean to standardize the way in which they organize, collect, and report drug related information.

By standardizing data collection across the Caribbean, professionals will not only be able to gather data in a uniformed manner within their own country, but they will also be able to monitor drug trends across the region more easily.

The guide takes a tiered approach in presenting the indicators for both the demand and supply side of the drug problem ranked by the level of difficulty and taking into account the DIN's ability to gather the data.



Key Indicators



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- **Standard Indicators:** Important data that is easy to gather and universally collected for both drug demand and supply.
- **Standard Indicators- Challenging** Important data gather but not easily accessed, will require greater capacity and resources by the DIN.
- **Optional Indicators:** Important data to gather however, much more challenging to collect and requires an advance DIN with greater capacity and resources.

Key Indicators



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CICAD has developed a set of:

55 indicators,

Divided into **18 indicator groups**.

By **level of difficulty** for data collection

The guide, also includes:

- Instruments for data collection
- Agency responsible for data collection
- Sources
- Frequency of data collection



Supply Side Indicator Groups

1. Drug Seizures
2. Arrest for Drug Offences
3. Prosecutions for Drug Offences
4. Drug Price
5. Other Seizures Related to Drug Offences
6. Illicit Drug Production
7. Drug-Related Crime
8. Purity of Drugs
9. Number of Deportees Related to Drug Offences
10. Suspicious Activity Reports (From Financial Intelligence Units)
11. Arrests for Money Laundering

Supply Side Indicators



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Standard Indicators

•Indicator Group 1: Drug Seizures

- Ind 1: Quantity of each drug seized (kg, Lt, Un)
- Ind 2: Number of seizures
- Ind 3: Settings where the operation(s) occurred
- Ind 4: Country of origin
- Ind 5: Country of destination

•Indicator Group 2: Arrest for Drug Offences

- Ind 6: Number of persons arrested for drug possession, trafficking
- Ind 7: Type of drug
- Ind 8: Number of persons arrested for intent to supply
- Ind 9: Other offenses as specified in domestic laws

•Indicator Group 3: Prosecutions for Drug Offences

- Ind 10: Number of persons tried for drug trafficking, possession
- Ind 11: Number of persons convicted

Standard Indicators (challenging to collect)

•Indicator Group 4: Drug Price

- Ind 12: Price in dollars (by drug, in local currency or US) equivalent
- Ind 13: Factors influencing changes in drug prices

•Indicator Group 5: Other Seizures Related to Drug Offences

- Ind 14: Firearms seizures
- Ind 15: Money seizures
- Ind 16: Building seizures
- Ind 17: Vehicles seizures

•Indicator Group 6: Illicit Drug Production

- Ind 18: Measure of the level of production of drugs
- Ind 19: Drug crop areas discovered and destroyed
- Ind 20: Seizures of precursors
- Ind 21: Number of illicit laboratories destroyed

Optional Indicators

•Indicator Group 7: Drug-Related Crime

- Ind 22: characterization of the relationship between drugs and crime (surveys)

•Indicator Group 8: Purity of Drugs

- Ind 23: Degree of purity of drugs seized

•Indicator Group 9: Number of Deportees Related to Drug Offences

- Ind 24: Number of persons who are deported for illegal drug problems in foreign countries

•Indicator Group 10: Suspicious Activity Reports (from Financial Intelligence Units)

- Ind 25: Number of suspicious activity reports
- Ind 26: Number of suspicious activity reports related to drugs

•Indicator Group 11: Arrests for Money Laundering

- Ind 27: Number of persons arrested for money laundering
- Ind 28: Number of persons arrested for money laundering related to drugs

Demand Side Indicator Groups



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- 12. Drug Use Among Young People, Risk Factors, Anti-Social Behavior
- 13. Treatment Utilization
- 14. Prevalence, Incidence of Drug use in the General Population
- 15. Drug-Related Morbidity
- 16. Drug-Related Mortality (Deaths)
- 17. High-Risk Drug Abuse (Problematic Drug Use)
- 18. Economic Cost of Drugs

Demand Side Indicators



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Standard Indicators

Standard Indicators (challenging to collect)

Optional Indicators

•Indicator Group 12: Drug Use Among Young People, Risk Factors, Anti-Social Behavior

- Ind 29: Lifetime, past year and past month prevalence
- Ind 30: Past year and past month incidence
- Ind 31: Risk and protective factors
- Ind 32: Onset age of use
- Ind 33: Harmful behavior
- Ind 34: Problematic drug use
- Ind 35: Perception of risk

•Indicator Group 13: Treatment Utilization

- Ind 36: Number of people seeking treatment for problematic drug use
- Ind 37: Drug use trends among persons seeking help for problematic drug use
- Ind 38: Demographic and other characteristics of persons seeking help for problematic drug use

•Indicator Group 14: Prevalence, Incidence of Drug use in the General Population

- Ind. 39: Lifetime, past year and past month Prevalence
- Ind. 40: Past year and past month incidence
- Ind 41: Risk and Protective factors
- Ind 42: Age of first use
- Ind 43: Risky behavior (driving under the influence, etc.)
- Ind 44: Problematic drug use
- Ind 45: Perception of risk

•Indicator Group 15: Drug-Related Morbidity

- Ind 46: Prevalence and incidence of drug-related infectious diseases primarily HIV, Hepatitis B. and Hepatitis C. among Intravenous Drug Users: commercial sex workers (CSW), homeless, most-at-risk-populations (MARPS)

•Indicator Group 16: Drug-Related Mortality (Deaths)

- Ind 47: Drug related mortality
- Ind 48: Drug related traffic deaths, criminal offences involving drug and alcohol related fatalities

•Indicator Group 17: High-Risk Drug Abuse (Problematic Drug Use)

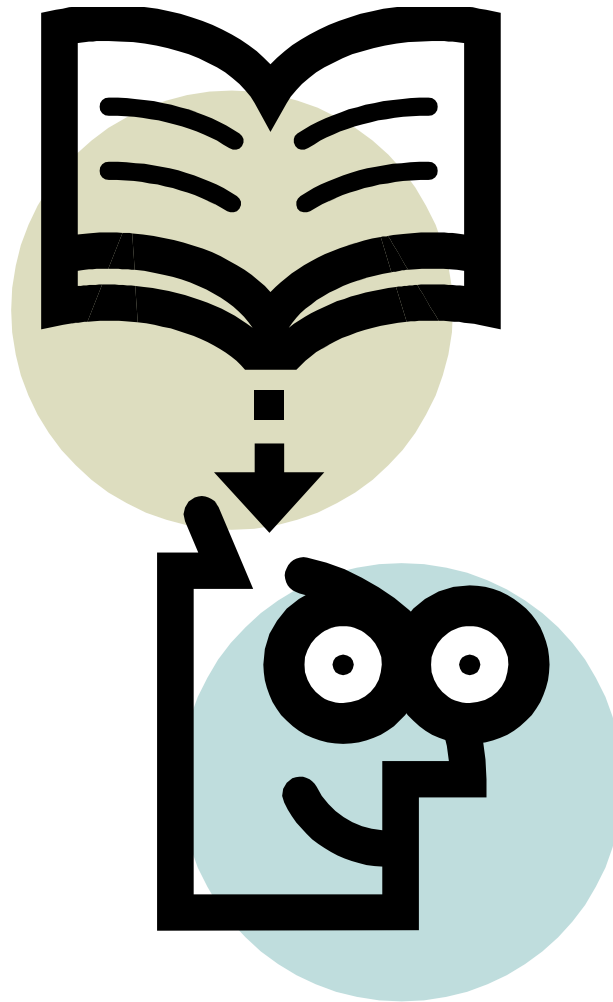
- Ind 49: Prevalence and incidence of problem drug use (injecting drug use, regular use of opioids, cocaine and/or amphetamines)

•Indicator Group 18: Economic Cost of Drugs

- Ind 50: Economic impact of drug use to the health care system
- Ind 51: Economic impact of premature deaths to society
- Ind 52: Economic cost of criminal activities due to drug use and to protect against it
- Ind 53: Economic Cost of lost productivity due to drug use
- Ind 54: Economic cost to the welfare system
- Ind 55: Economic cost of vehicular accidents and fire destruction due to drug use



Other Sources of Information





Qualitative Data

Key informant
studies


Focus groups

Early Warning
Systems

Rapid Assessment
Surveys



Recommendations for Implementing Indicators



The optional indicators described in this document should be implemented only when the standard ones have been collected.

Eventually we must develop a database. Excel can satisfy the basics, but eventually more powerful software will be needed.

There must always be a corresponding date for each event. It will help to identify and properly record time period statistics.



Recommendations for Implementing Indicators

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The DIN must review its statistics with the source in order to correct errors and understand the data.

Focus must also be on innovative ways of disseminating information. When a lack of quantitative data for assessing the drug problem is encountered in a country, qualitative studies could be useful for providing some “leads” on what is happening.



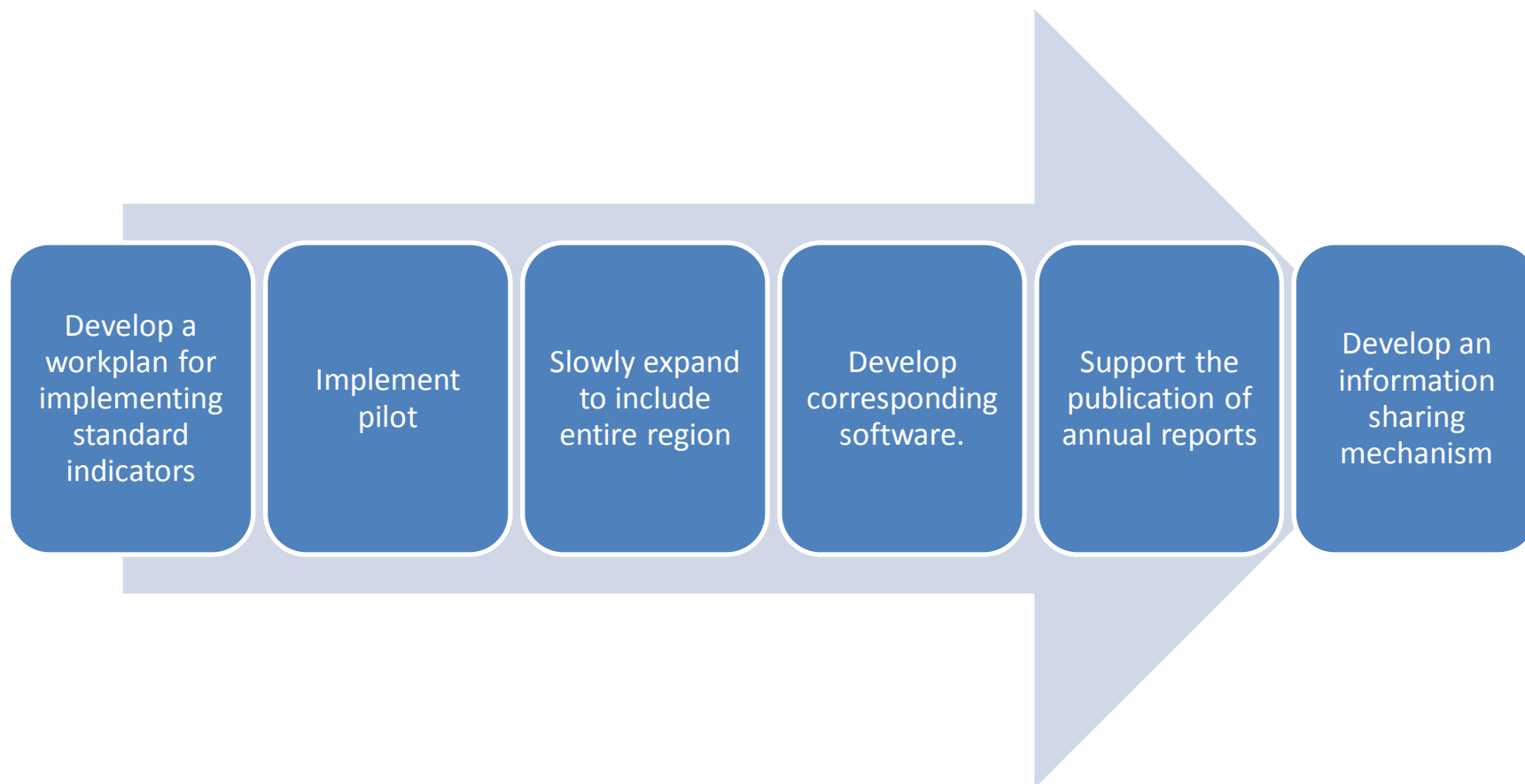
Recommendations for Implementing Indicators

Countries must be careful when interpreting data. They must do triangulation for assuring validity and reliability of data, especially with qualitative studies. Countries must also provide opportunities for their DIN coordinators to be trained in drug epidemiology and other relevant topics.

Finally, it is highly recommended that constant feedback should be given to stakeholders and members of the DINs.



Future Plans





Thank you for your attention.

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