CICAD Meeting with the Universities of the Americas Concerning the Drug Phenomenon Focusing on the Use of Scientific Evidence

Integrated Interdisciplinary Drug Demand Reduction Project OAS/CICAD - UWI

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Sept. 12-14, 2012

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UWI Sites

- § Mona Campus Jamaica
- § St. Augustine Campus
 - Trinidad and Tobago
- § Cave Hill Campus Barbados
- **§** School of Clinical Medicine and Research
 - Bahamas

Beneficiaries



§ Graduate and undergraduate students

§ Community



Faculties

- **§** Schools of Medicine
- § Law
- § Psychology
- § Social Work
- § Nursing
- § Humanities and Education
- § Others



Main Components

Education:

Faculty training, inclusion of drug content within under and graduate Curricula and Monitoring and evaluation systems.

Outreach:

Development of programmes promoting healthy lifestyles and the prevention of drug use and abuse at the community level.

Research:

Development of research studies at university, local and/or national levels

Stages

- § Coordinators
- § Academic committee
- § Funding secured (March 2011 January 2012)
- § Buy in by all
- **§** Curriculum Development
- § Regular Meetings
- **§** Workshops (completion by Dec. 2013)

Implementation Phase

§Assessment of drug situation at university level **§**Training of faculty in the drug phenomena §Inclusion of drug content in undergraduate and graduate curricula **§Implementation of curriculum with drug content §Implementation of research and extension activities** §Implementation of monitoring and evaluation systems of graduates §Knowledge, collaborative efforts and the dissemination of research findings

Technical group

- S CICAD/CAMH programme in Toronto
- **§** Fulbright Humphrey Fellows
- § Group with scientific knowledge and technical skills to impact policy design, decision making, research projects implementation and management, and project evaluation
- § Future research gaps in the area of substance misuse (knowledge attitude and practices (KAP), co-morbidity, gambling, HIV, cost, violence, adolescents and women)

Conclusion

- Significant work being done in substance abuse education, research and outreach
- **§** Increased number of trained professionals
 - CICAD-CAMH training programme
- S Excellent opportunity for substance abuse research, results of which would inform policy decisions in substance abuse prevention and treatment in Caribbean countries

Conclusion

- S An integrated, interdisciplinary approach to education research on the drug phenomenon in the region
- **§** Reduction of drugs, crime and violence in the region
- § Professional network in the Caribbean Region
- § Significant role of OAS/CICAD and CAMH in the development of Drug Demand Reduction in the Caribbean Region

