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CONTROL COMMISSION**

**CICAD**

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**DRAFT**

**DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT 2020 OF THE  
INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)  
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES  
AT ITS FIFTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

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INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)  
TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES AT ITS  
FIFTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION

1. The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) hereby presents its annual report to the General Assembly of the Organization of American States at its fifty-first regular session, in accordance with the provisions of Articles 54 (f) and 91 (f) of the Charter of the OAS.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

2. In February 2020, the **Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) Unit** published a report entitled *Drug Policies in the Americas and Gender Perspective: Findings from the Seventh Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)*, prepared in 2019; provided support for the drafting process of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (HDS) 2020 and its corresponding Plan of Action (POA) 2021-2025; and drafted instruments for its eighth evaluation round, through the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG), chaired by the Government of Canada. Member states discussed the proposed text for the HDS and POA from August to October and met virtually at the end of October to agree on the final version of these documents. The IWG met, also virtually, in September, October, and November to discuss and agree on a new yearly thematic operational process and methodology for the MEM, its operating documents, as well as the documents that will be used during the first year of the evaluation round for the thematic area of Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support. All documents agreed to by the IWG, as well as the HDS and POA, were approved by CICAD Commissioners at their sixty-eighth regular session in December 2020.

3. The **Institutional Strengthening Unit** worked on national and local levels to help enhance drug strategies. At the national level, it continued to provide technical assistance to member states in the Caribbean for review of their national drug strategies and plans of action. Locally, the Health and Life in the Americas Program (SAVIA) developed technical documents to support local interventions on drugs and socio-occupational integration. The Unit continued the review and updating of regulatory frameworks and emerging themes, and cooperation with civil society. As part of the search for alternatives to incarceration for drug-related offenders, the Unit worked on the development and piloting of an innovative training curriculum on case and care management to support the social integration of offenders with problem substance use, and, as requested by member states, continued to explore models such as community courts and drug treatment courts for adults and juveniles. Training was provided in the monitoring and evaluation of therapeutic and restorative justice programs for juveniles. The Unit also continued to implement the initiative on gender in the criminal justice system in five member states, to contribute to the development of policies and legislation on alternatives to incarceration from a gender perspective; and launched a new initiative to support capacity building and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of drug treatment courts in member states.

4. In June 2020, the **Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID)** launched a project on Early Warning Systems on Drugs in response to the opioids and new psychoactive substances being found in Latin America and the Caribbean. The OID conducted five on-line seminars on early warning

systems and related matters and held an on-line seminar on the implications for the drug problem of the COVID-19 pandemic. The OID provided technical support to a number of member states interested in developing drug information networks and early warning systems and conducted national level on-line training courses to enhance the capacities of member states, including Brazil and Mexico. Through its Early Warning System on Drugs for the Americas (SATA), the OID gathered information on the early warning systems operating in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay and published an information bulletin on the system. The OID convened a technical working group on drug supply indicators, which met in November 2020 with experts from member states. The OID continued its technical cooperation with the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the United States National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), and the World Health Organization (WHO) in an effort to share information and standardize drug-related indicators. The Executive Secretariat/OID signed a joint work plan with the European Monitoring Center. These activities were in response to the need for research and data collection on key drug areas, as requested by member states.

5. In May 2020, the **Demand Reduction Unit** developed and circulated a paper with recommendations for the Hemisphere on the treatment of substance use disorders during the COVID-19 pandemic. The twenty-first meeting of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction was held virtually on November 23-25, 2020, with 26 member states participating. In July, CICAD, as the Regional Coordinating Center for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR), organized two panels that took place during the first virtual conference of the ICUDDR. ES/CICAD organized the on-line course on the Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC) for health care professionals from ten member states. An on-line course was held on the Universal Prevention Curriculum, and a pilot was conducted for 120 participants from Latin America. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the OAS General Secretariat and the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP.) ES/CICAD took part in ISSUP's virtual conference on drug demand reduction in Africa, attended by people from more than 95 countries. The OAS General Secretariat, through ES/CICAD, signed an international cooperation agreement with the Ministry of Citizenship of Brazil to establish a framework for cooperation and technical assistance in the area of drug demand reduction in Brazil. CICAD began a process of mapping drug treatment and prevention institutions and programs in the Caribbean and conducted three webinars on mental health and substance use in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic geared to the young people who had attended the First Caribbean Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention held in 2019. Four webinars on alcohol, substance use, and mental health in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic were held for treatment and prevention professionals in the OAS member states. A hemisphere-wide survey was conducted in July of the status of telephone drug help lines, and the first virtual meeting was held on the design and implementation of drug helplines. A study was conducted on patterns of psychoactive substance use during the COVID-19 pandemic. A Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Valencia, Spain was signed in December 2020, as a means of establishing the framework for cooperation and technical assistance in the area of drug demand reduction.

6. In 2020, the **Supply Reduction Unit** (CICAD/SRU) conducted eight regional training events, one national course, and two virtual events for OAS member states on topics related to control of the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and the prevention of diversion of chemical precursors used to manufacture illicit drugs. These activities focused on police counterdrug intelligence and drug trafficking control; control of precursor chemicals, synthetic drugs, and new psychoactive substances (NPS); control of maritime and port narcotrafficking; and mainstreaming of a gender

equality approach throughout all counterdrug agencies. Through the Regional Counterdrug Intelligence School of the Americas (ERCAIAD) and the Caribbean Counterdrug Intelligence Training School (CCITS), the CICAD/SRU provided specialized training to 853 counterdrug investigators and analysts to help improve their capacity to effectively investigate and dismantle drug trafficking networks. In connection with CICAD's Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products, the Unit prepared and circulated a questionnaire to the competent national authorities for the control of chemical substances and precursors and organized a virtual meeting on the subject. The CICAD/SRU produced an information document on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on drug trafficking in the Americas. As part of the work of CICAD's Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking, the Unit developed and sent out a questionnaire on control of maritime drug trafficking and began to prepare for a virtual meeting of Competent Authorities, to be held in the first quarter of 2021. As part of the Inter-American Program for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies (GENLEA), the Unit launched online the *GENLEA Handbook: Strategies and Good Practices for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies*, which it distributed throughout the region and elsewhere.

## **CHAPTER I: REGULAR SESSIONS OF THE COMMISSION**

7. The sixty-seventh regular session of CICAD was held virtually on July 17, 2020, and the sixty-eighth regular session was held on December 9-11, 2020, in Bogotá, Colombia. The Chair for the 2019-2020 term of office was the United States, and Colombia served as Vice Chair. Colombia was elected Chair of the Commission in December 2020, and Costa Rica was elected Vice Chair for 2020-2021.

### **SIXTY-SEVENTH REGULAR SESSION**

8. At its sixty-seventh regular session, the Commission approved the draft annual report for 2019, as well as the CICAD portion of the omnibus resolution on multidimensional security, which was to be presented to the OAS General Assembly at its fiftieth regular session.

### **SIXTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION**

9. At its sixty-eighth regular session, the Commission, pursuant to Articles 22 and 23 of its Statute, elected Colombia by acclamation to serve as Chair of CICAD for the 2020-2021 term of office, and elected Costa Rica as Vice Chair for the same period. The Commission approved the 2021 Work Plan of Executive Secretariat of CICAD, the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020 and its Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025. The Commission also adopted the report of the IWG Chair, and the documents for the eighth evaluation round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism. It also extended the mandate of the Group through 2021, to enable it to prepare documents for the 2022 and 2023 evaluations.

10. The Commission heard panels and presentations on the following: Experiences of the Path of the Future Policy: Colombia 2020; National strategies and their alignment with the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020; Demand reduction strategies with a human rights and gender approach; Drug policies and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): New guidelines for their effectiveness in local jurisdictions; Innovative strategies in alternatives to incarceration and the criminal justice system; New trends, threats, and best practices to counter illicit maritime, land and aerial drug trafficking; Overview of drug trafficking's value chain system; Local drug markets in the region: from traditional small-scale drug dealing to micro-trafficking via the Internet; Experiences and competitive challenges in systems and control models for secure and informed access to cannabis and other controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes.

11. In connection with CICAD's Expert Groups, the Commission approved the report of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction, and the candidacy of Paraguay to hold the Chair of the Group of Experts for the 2020-2021 term of office and approved the candidacy of Mexico to serve as Vice Chair of the Expert Group for the same period. The Commission approved the candidacy of the Dominican Republic for reelection as Chair of the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking for 2020-2021 term of office and approved the candidacy of Peru to serve as Vice Chair for the same period. It also approved the candidacy of Chile for reelection to the Chair of the Expert Group on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products for the 2020-2021 term of office, and the candidacy of Guatemala to serve as Vice Chair for the same period. Lastly, the Commission took note of the summary presented by the Group of Experts on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative

Development and approved the candidacy of Peru for reelection as Chair of the Expert Group for the 2020-2021 term of office.

## **CHAPTER II: CICAD ACTION TO IMPLEMENT THE HEMISPHERIC DRUG STRATEGY 2020**

### **A. MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)**

12. The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) Unit published a report entitled *Drug Policies in the Americas and Gender Perspective: Findings from the National Reports on the Seventh Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)*, prepared in 2019; provided support for the drafting of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (HDS) 2020 and its corresponding Plan of Action (POA) 2021-2025; and drafted instruments for its eighth evaluation round through the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG).

#### **Report on Drug Policies in the Americas and Gender Perspective: Findings from the National Reports on the Seventh Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)**

13. In February, the CICAD Executive Secretariat, with financial support from the Government of Canada, published a report on *Drug Policies in the Americas and Gender Perspective: Findings from the National Reports on the Seventh Round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM)*, which analyzed the incorporation of gender perspective in OAS member states' drug policies. This report can be found on the CICAD-MEM website at:  
[http://www.cicad.oas.org/Main/Template.asp?File=/mem/septima\\_ronda/default\\_eng.asp](http://www.cicad.oas.org/Main/Template.asp?File=/mem/septima_ronda/default_eng.asp)

#### **Drafting process of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy (HDS) 2020 and corresponding draft Plan of Action on Drugs (POA) 2021-2025**

14. After holding virtual discussions from August to October, member states participated in a virtual meeting to finalize the text of the HDS and its POA on October 21-23. The final versions of these documents were sent to CICAD Commissioners, who then approved them at their sixty-eighth regular session in December.

#### **Review of the MEM process by the Inter-Governmental Working Group (IWG), in preparation for the eighth evaluation round**

15. The IWG held virtual meetings on September 16-17, October 1-2, and November 17 to discuss and agree on a new yearly thematic operational process and methodology for the MEM eighth evaluation round; draft the operating documents for the mechanism: Updated Operational Process, Calendar of Activities, and Procedural Manual; and draft and agree on the documents that will be used during the first year of the evaluation round (Evaluator's Manual, Evaluation Questionnaire, and Guidelines of the Introductory Document to the Questionnaire,) which will assess the thematic area of Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support. The IWG agreed on these documents and their final versions were sent to CICAD Commissioners, who in turn approved them at their sixty-eighth regular session in December.

## **B. INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**

16. ES/CICAD's Institutional Strengthening Unit continued to provide technical assistance to support capacity-building and the development of drug policies and actions by government and nongovernmental agencies working in the drug field in the member states. The Unit conducted programs on the design, execution, monitoring, and evaluation of policies, review of legislation and regulatory changes, and policy discussion and coordination on current and emerging themes.

17. Throughout 2020, the Unit developed and implemented programs and activities in the areas of coordination and technical assistance, systematization, strategic analysis, training, knowledge management, awareness, and exchange of views on the member states' institutional capacities for program execution, including: support for the development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of national and local drug policies, strategies and action plans; social integration strategies; comprehensive and sustainable alternative development; development, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation of a gender approach to alternatives to incarceration for drug-related offenses; review and updating of regulatory frameworks and emerging themes, and cooperation with civil society.

### **Support for the development of national drug policies**

18. Technical support was given to several member states in the Caribbean on development of their national drug policies (strategies and plans of action.) The assistance was provided virtually due to the pandemic. New project papers were developed to ensure increased capacity for the delivery of technical assistance in 2021 to a larger number of countries that have asked for such assistance.

19. Work started on development of a universal training curriculum on national drug strategies for the Americas, to help train professionals in the member states in how to formulate and implement national drug strategies and plans of action.

### **Support for the development of local drug policies on drugs: Health and Life in the Americas (SAVIA)**

20. The Institutional Strengthening Unit continued to work through its SAVIA program on decentralization and local management of drug policies, especially on developing the capacities of staff responsible for formulating comprehensive models of local intervention and socio-occupational integration.

21. The Unit developed technical documents to support local interventions on drugs and socio-occupational integration. The documents will become available in 2021.

22. An event was organized together with the Spanish Government's National Drug Plan (DGPNSD) to examine and discuss successful experiences with drug policies at the local level, the progress that had been made, and the challenges still remaining. Also discussed were lines of cooperation between Latin America and Spain on this issue.

### **Alternatives to incarceration for drug-related offenses**

23. As part of its drug policy effort to look for alternatives to incarceration for drug-related offenses, the Unit worked on a bilateral basis or through cooperative arrangements with programs and organizations such as the United States Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), Canada's Anti-Crime Capacity Building Program, (ACCBP), The Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Spanish International Development Cooperation Agency (AECID), and the Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD).

24. The Executive Secretariat continued to collect data in selected courts in Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, and Jamaica on how women, men, and LGBTI persons who had committed drug-related offenses interact with the criminal justice system. This diagnostic study, carried out by the Institutional Strengthening Unit and the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs as part of the project on gender in the criminal justice system, examines alternatives to incarceration from a gender perspective.

25. Peru continued to receive technical assistance from the ES/CICAD to implement two pilots of juvenile drug treatment courts in Lima and Ventanilla. This assistance was helpful in the approval of the operations protocol for the Office of the Attorney General, and training of health care and criminal justice personnel in monitoring and evaluation.

26. The ES/CICAD continued its work on the Universal Curriculum on Alternatives to Incarceration for policy-makers participating in a training of trainers event. Jamaica received technical assistance and an on-line training course on problem-solving courts organized by the Executive Secretariat.

27. The ES/CICAD continued with development of an innovative curriculum on case and care management (CCM), which promotes cooperation among the justice system, the health care system, and social services to facilitate access to treatment and aftercare programs as alternatives to incarceration. The curriculum was piloted in 2020 in Trinidad and Tobago, and Jamaica. Trinidad and Tobago is receiving technical assistance from ES/CICAD on the development of a case and care management system.

28. The Institutional Strengthening and Demand Reduction Units of ES/CICAD launched a new initiative to strengthen therapeutic communities and treatment centers in Latin America (Argentina, Chile, and Peru) to promote socio-occupational integration of drug-related offenders.

29. The ES/CICAD signed an interagency agreement with the Secretariat of the Interior of the Government of Mexico to implement the second phase of a technical assistance project designed to strengthen and consolidate therapeutic justice programs in Mexican Federal entities. A work plan was developed, and the first phase of the project began.

30. In cooperation with the OAS Department of Public Security, ES/CICAD launched a new technical assistance project in Colombia to promote better informed use of alternatives to incarceration and sentencing. The project will develop an information tool that will help with the application of criteria of eligibility for alternatives to incarceration and fair sentencing practices.

31. Lastly, following the publication of the *Manual for Scientific Monitoring and Evaluation: Drug Treatment Courts in the Americas*, ES/CICAD launched a new initiative to support 11 member states' efforts to set up or enhance their capacities and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation of their drug treatment courts.

#### **Group of Experts on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development (GEDAIS)**

32. Given the health emergency caused by COVID-19, the Government of Peru informed that the annual in-person meeting of the Group of Experts could not be held in 2020, rather, in 2021. Peru also presented its candidacy to remain as Chair of the Expert Group through 2021. CICAD approved this designation at its sixty-sixth regular session.

#### **C. INTER-AMERICAN OBSERVATORY ON DRUGS (OID)**

33. The mission of ES/CICAD's Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID) is to promote and support a drug information and research network for OAS member states. The OID's principal partners are the national drug observatories of the National Drug Commissions, universities, and other international organizations. Internationally, the OID works closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), among other international and national agencies.

#### **Support for national observatories on drugs**

34. On June 22, 2020, the OID launched a project to develop early warning systems (EWS) in response to the opioids and new psychoactive substances being found in Latin America and the Caribbean. The project provides technical assistance to OAS member states to identify emerging drug problems through EWS.

35. The OID conducted five on-line seminars between June and October 2020 on issues related to the EWS operating in the Americas. The seminars were open to all member states and other interested parties.

36. The OID held a webinar in July 2020 on drug research in the context of COVID-19. The seminar was open to all member states and other interested parties and had speakers from member states and Europe.

37. On November 16-17, 2020, the OID held a workshop of the Technical Working Group on Supply Reduction Indicators. This workshop, attended by OAS member states, discussed ways of improving the collection of data on the supply of drugs, both for the OID and for presentation internationally. The technical working group developed a work plan, which was presented to the Commission at its sixty-eighth regular session held on December 9-11, 2020.

38. The OID moved forward with research on heroin, opioids, and other emerging drugs, including a series of studies on heroin and other opioids in Argentina, Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru, and Uruguay. The final report from the Dominican Republic was published in December 2019, the report from Uruguay in February 2020, and the report from Mexico in June 2020.

39. The OID provided technical support to the gender project in the criminal justice system, in which Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica participate. It also gave training support for the design of survey methodologies and instruments, data management services, and support for a team of Yale University students who completed their main research on the basis of this project on gender.

40. The OID provided technical assistance to the Experts Group on Demand Reduction to develop a means whereby the countries could collect information on perceptions about drug use in the context of COVID-19.

41. In December 2020, the OID conducted a nation-wide virtual training session for Brazil to help support and enhance the country's early warning system on drugs. Over 80 forensic laboratory staff and personnel from the National Drug Policy Secretariat (SENAD) took part.

42. The OID held a nation-wide virtual training session for Mexico on August 25, 2020. Over 200 Mexican professionals received training on how to develop and operate an early warning system. This webinar also tested CICAD's training tools on early warning systems.

### **Publications**

43. In March 2020, the OID published a policy paper entitled *Emerging Drugs in the Americas: New Psychoactive Substances, including Synthetic Opioids*. The paper discusses the emergence of new psychoactive substances in the region, the policy implications, and possible regulatory responses.

44. The OID published its first Information Bulletin on Data from the Early Warning System for the Americas (SATA). It contains information from the early warning systems Argentina, Chile, Colombia, and Uruguay, as well as other data provided through the SATA.

45. In June 2020, the OID published an article entitled *Considerations for drug research and COVID-19*, which examines the challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic poses for researchers looking at the impact of COVID-19 on people who use drugs and other vulnerable populations.

### **International Cooperation**

46. The OID is an institutional partner in the Science Advisory Committee of the World Drug Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), headquartered in Vienna, Austria. The OID participated in meetings of the Science Advisory Committee and worked with UNODC to review the data from the countries of the Hemisphere, and the pertinent chapters of the World Drug Report.

47. The OID collaborated with UNODC's Global SMART Program by exchanging information on synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances. The OID and the Global SMART Program conducted joint training sessions on July 22 and December 2, 2020, on the collection of information on synthetic drugs, new psychoactive substances, and synthetic opioids.

48. The OID is an institutional partner of the Inter-Agency Technical Working Group on Drug Epidemiology (IAEWG), sponsored jointly by the World Health Organization and UNODC. The

working group reviewed the need to standardize data collection on the demand for treatment and treatment coverage and decided to work together to develop a set of indicators to help countries develop information systems on drug treatment.

49. The OID worked closely with the European Monitoring Center for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), and the World Health Organization (WHO) to standardize indicators on drug use and drug treatment. The purpose is to ensure that the indicators are sufficiently uniform to allow agencies to work closely together on drug information activities. In 2020, CICAD/OID prepared a joint work plan with these organizations, which was signed on January 21, 2020.

50. The OID and the International Program of the U.S. National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) have a collaborative relationship in which the OID participates each year in NIDA's International Forum. In 2020, the OID took part in virtual events and on-line panels organized by NIDA, which included presentations by international researchers and Humphrey Fellows, young researchers who are doing their practicum at NIDA.

51. The OID is working closely with the Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean, and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD), and in 2020, completed work on a manual to help member states develop early warning systems on drugs, which is a joint program with COPOLAD.

#### **D. DEMAND REDUCTION**

52. ES/CICAD's Demand Reduction Unit (DRU) promotes the formulation of lines of action and strategic policies in accordance with the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025. The Unit provides assistance to member states in the development and promotion of sustainable, empirically based policies, strategies, plans and programs to promote healthy lifestyles, and in the prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation of people with problem drug use.

##### **Advanced Certificate Program in Media-Based Prevention**

53. In cooperation with the National Secretariat of Drug Use Care and Prevention (SENAPRED) of the Ministry of Citizenship of Brazil, three Brazilian prevention experts were selected to participate in the Advanced Certificate Program in Media-Based Prevention developed by the Claremont Graduate University. This on-line course will begin in January 2021, with the goal of developing a prevention campaign using the media to target a particular community in Brazil.

##### **On-line course on the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC)**

54. CICAD/DRU worked on developing an on-line course on the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) – Introduction to Prevention Science for Practitioners. A virtual meeting was held on December 1 to launch the pilot on-line training program. Participating were ISSUP Ecuador, RIOD, DEVIDA Peru, and the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs of the United States Department of State. One hundred and twenty participants from Latin America and Spain took part. As part of their final grade, they had to complete a prevention project.

## **Global Dialogue**

55. CICAD/DRU selected five technical experts from Latin America and the Caribbean to participate in the Virtual Conference of ISSUP on Drug Demand Reduction in Africa. They shared good practices and experiences from the Western Hemisphere, speaking at panels on treatment, prevention, and epidemiology. Each of the panels was attended by more than 1,000 participants from 95 countries.

## **Cooperation with the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP)**

56. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in December 2020 with the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP). It sets the framework for cooperation between ISSUP and the OAS General Secretariat to support the development of National ISSUP Chapters in Latin America and the Caribbean, and the promotion of effective, ethical drug demand reduction programs of high quality, and the building of a well-trained professional workforce in those countries in which National ISSUP Chapters are established.

57. In cooperation with ISSUP and its National Chapters in Latin America, CICAD/DRU organized a virtual dialogue on the treatment of substance use. A paper containing the conclusions of the session was written and shared with the National Chapters.

58. Two webinars were held with ISSUP Mexico, one on the Universal Prevention and Treatment Curricula, and the second on the use of psychoactive substances and violence against women. CICAD/DRU worked with ISSUP Chile to prepare a report on the impact of COVID-19 on treatment, prevention, and social inclusion.

## **Faith-Based Curriculum**

59. CICAD/DRU organized two meetings in order to set up an advisory committee on the faith-based curriculum. The first meeting focused on the spiritual component of the subject, and the second on technical aspects of prevention and treatment. The Spanish-language version of the materials was distributed to the members of the Committee for their review. Their recommendations and comments were incorporated into the text, and the materials are ready to be piloted.

60. CICAD/URD developed a database of religious organizations in Latin America, which will be key to successful distribution of the materials.

## **Cooperation with the Government of Israel**

61. In cooperation with the Israeli Authority for Community Security of the Ministry for Community Empowerment and Advancement, CICAD/DRU developed a virtual workshop on Gender-specific Substance Use Treatment Programs: The Israeli approach to residential treatment for women, which will take place in February 2021. Israel will share its experiences with residential treatment centers, and will explain the importance of developing empowerment, detoxification, and dual diagnosis programs for women.

## **Curriculum for the treatment of adolescents with substance use disorders**

62. In 2020, CICAD's Demand Reduction Unit revised the Curriculum for the Treatment of Adolescents with Substance Use Disorders, and incorporated comments and suggestions from experts. This curriculum was originally developed by CICAD in 2014 for English-speaking Caribbean member states. The goal is to make this curriculum widely available and incorporate it into the training cycle of the universal treatment curriculum (UTC) for use in OAS member states and elsewhere. The curriculum will be completed and piloted in the Caribbean in 2021.

### **First Youth Forum on Prevention of Drug Use**

63. Two webinars were held on mental health and substance use in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. The webinars were geared to the young people who had attended the first Caribbean Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention in 2019. The first webinar was on mental health and substance use among young people: strengthening resilience in hard times, and the second was on the experience of youth leaders during a crisis: staying safe and taking care of others.

64. Throughout 2020, CICAD's Demand Reduction Unit provided technical assistance and guidance to the national teams participating in the First Youth Forum to help them implement their substance use prevention initiatives.

### **Mapping of prevention and treatment institutions in the Caribbean**

65. CICAD/DRU is mapping the drug prevention and treatment institutions and programs in 14 OAS Caribbean member states. Based on the mapping, in 2021, the Unit will assess institutional needs and the need for human resources training and identify specific priority needs in the region. It is hoped that the results of this project will provide an important baseline of information on service providers, which will help CICAD, and its Caribbean member states determine future investments to enhance the sector and its support services, by improving standards, qualifications, and skills.

### **International Cooperation Agreement on Drug Demand Reduction with the Government of Brazil**

66. The OAS General Secretariat, through the ES/CICAD, signed an International Cooperation Agreement with the Brazilian Ministry of Citizenship to establish a framework for cooperation and technical assistance in the area of drug demand reduction, and to develop projects and programs to improve the quality of programs for people with substance use disorders in Brazil.

67. Two webinars on substance use were held in coordination with the Brazilian Federal Ministry of Citizenship and the Pan American Health Organization: The first was on COVID-19, Alcoholism and Mental Health; and the second was on scientific evidence on the social and health implications of marijuana use.

### **Academic Sessions and On-line Clinics**

68. In 2020, CICAD/DRU and the School of Psychology of the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) gave 10 academic sessions and on-line clinics for Spanish-speaking health care professionals in the Americas. An average of 300 people tuned in to each session.

### **Peer review of the Universal Treatment Curriculum**

69. In 2020, the Demand Reduction Unit participated in the peer review of the training materials of the Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC), which was led by the Colombo Plan.

### **UTC for health care professionals**

70. In 2020, 1,592 participants from 13 countries enrolled in the on-line course entitled *UTC for health care professionals*. A total of 512 graduated and received a certificate from the School of Psychology of UNAM.

### **Recommendations for the Hemisphere on the Treatment of Substance Use Disorders during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

71. The document, developed in coordination with the chair and vice chair of the Experts Group on Demand Reduction in line with the OAS General Secretariat's integrated response to the COVID-19 crisis, discusses some of the essential issues that need to be addressed during the emergency caused by the pandemic, including health services for people in treatment, individuals providing care for street people, and health care professionals.

### **Experts Group on Demand Reduction**

72. The twenty-first meeting of the Experts Group on Demand Reduction was held virtually on November 23-25, 2020, under the chair of Colombia and vice chair of Paraguay, with participation of 26 OAS member states. The central themes of the meeting were the Hemisphere's response to the COVID-19 pandemic in demand reduction, and the provision of mental health care for drug users during the pandemic.

### **Cooperation with Civil Society in Drug Demand Reduction**

73. In November 2020, CICAD/DRU participated in a panel on COVID-19 guidelines and drug dependency, which took place virtually as part of the XXII Ibero-American Seminar on Drugs and Cooperation, organized by the Ibero-American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations Working in Drugs and the Addictions (RIOD).

### **Regional Coordination Center of the International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR)**

74. In July 2020, CICAD/DRU, as the Regional Coordination Center for Latin America and the Caribbean of the International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR), organized two panels on distance higher education in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. These panels, which formed part of the first virtual conference of ICUDDR, were attended by representatives of five universities in the region: State Distance Learning University (UNED) of Costa Rica, Central University of Chile, National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), University of the Argentine Social Museum and CES University of Colombia.

### **Telephone Drug Helplines**

75. In July 2020, recognizing that telephone drug helplines can be a valuable resource for those suffering from drug dependence, CICAD/SRU gathered information on the status of drug helplines in the Hemisphere. The data received from 24 countries showed that 10 national drug commissions had a telephone helpline for people having drug and/or alcohol problems, while 20 said that they needed assistance either to set up a helpline or to improve their existing service.

76. The first virtual meeting on the design and implementation of telephone drug helplines was held in November 2020. The event was attended by representatives of 20 countries, who shared details of their experiences and good practices with the design of helplines, which provide immediate assistance to people struggling with substance use. Panelists included representatives of the Executive Secretariat of the Commission against the Addictions and Drug Trafficking (SECCATID) of Guatemala, the National Council on Drug Abuse (NCDA) of Jamaica, and the Chilean National Service for the Prevention and Rehabilitation of Drug and Alcohol Consumption (SENDA).

### **Study on Patterns of Psychoactive Substance Use during the COVID-19 Pandemic**

77. A study was conducted in September/October 2020 on patterns of psychoactive substance use during the COVID-19 pandemic by means of an on-line platform using a confidential, anonymous questionnaire designed by a working group of CICAD's Experts Group on Demand Reduction. The survey was designed to spur thinking about potential changes in psychoactive substance use as the result of the pandemic. Although it was an exploratory study not intended to produce definitive answers about the use of psychoactive substances, the results of the survey will be of use to the Expert Group and will help individual member states gain a better understanding of the challenge of drugs in the context of the pandemic. A total of 57,652 surveys were received from participants in 33 member states.

### **Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Valencia, Spain**

78. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in December 2020 with the City of Valencia, Spain to establish a framework for cooperation and technical assistance between the Executive Secretariat of CICAD and the City of Valencia in areas related to demand reduction in OAS member states, including the adaptation, reproduction, use and distribution by CICAD of evidence-based academic materials developed by the Health Council of the City of Valencia.

### **Online training to strengthen addiction prevention and treatment activities in Inpatient Treatment Centers and Institutions of the Oaxaca State Commission against Addictions (CECA by its acronym in Spanish), Mexico**

79. This activity was carried out over 4 sessions, on June 17 and July 1, 8, and 15, 2020. The objective was to strengthen technical and clinical tools and provide information to institutions that are members of CECA Oaxaca, Mexico to improve the quality of care services in residential centers. Members of the CECA, jurisdictional managers of the mental health and addictions program, and managers of residential establishments participated in the seminar.

### **Virtual Forum "Impact of the global economic consequences resulting from COVID-19 on drug policies"**

80. This forum was held within the collaborative framework between CICAD and the Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking of the Council of Europe (Pompidou Group) on the drug problem.

### **Videoconference "Responses to gender sensitivity in drug policy"**

81. This activity addressed the gender dimension in prosecution, law enforcement, and the criminal justice system. It was held on September 29, 2020, jointly with the Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking of the Council of Europe (Pompidou Group) on the drug problem.

## **E. SUPPLY REDUCTION**

82. The mission of ES/CICAD's Supply Reduction Unit (SRU) is to enhance the capacities of member states to counter the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, and to prevent diversion of the precursor chemicals used to manufacture the drugs.

83. In 2020, CICAD/SRU organized 11 activities for OAS member states, which were held both virtually and in person.

### **Counterdrug Intelligence Training**

84. In March 2020, as part of the annual programming of the Regional Counterdrug Intelligence School of the Americas (ERCAIAD), CICAD/SRU organized a regional course on strategic and prospective counterdrug intelligence for twenty-four analysts and investigators at the headquarters of ERCAIAD in Bogotá, Colombia. Also in March 2020, the Unit offered a national seminar in Quito, Ecuador designed to enhance the capacities of 30 national drug control officials to investigate and dismantle drug trafficking criminal organizations.

85. Given that it was impossible to hold in-person training events due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Unit adapted its portfolio, and offered three virtual counterdrug training courses for 673 law enforcement agents from OAS member states in Latin America. The courses took place in June, July, and November on the ERCAIAD secure online training platform.

86. Through the Caribbean Counterdrug Intelligence Training School (CCITS), CICAD/SRU delivered three regional courses on the investigation and prosecution of cross-border drug trafficking, in cooperation with the Regional Security System (RSS) and the Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM IMPACS). The training events were handled by the on-line training system of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI), known as the *CBSI-Connect Learning Management System*. They took place in July, August, and September/October, and were attended by 114 counterdrug officials from all Caribbean member states.

### **Control of precursor chemicals, synthetic drugs, and new psychoactive substances**

87. Moving forward with the work of CICAD's Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products, the Executive Secretariat circulated a questionnaire in April 2020 to gather current information on the emerging and persistent threats that countries face in the safe monitoring, detection, investigation, and countering of the diversion of precursor chemicals, and to identify possible actions to address these problems.

88. Twenty-eight agencies from 19 member states responded to the questionnaire. The information gathered will be used to offer technical assistance and training in an effort to control the diversion of precursor chemicals in the member states, as required.

89. Following this exercise, in October 2020, the CICAD/SRU and Chile, Chair of the Group of Experts, convened a virtual meeting on precursor chemical control in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. A total of 122 representatives from 24 member states participated. Experts at the meeting shared good practices, tools, and recommendations that member states can use to deal more effectively with the challenges of chemical control during the pandemic and afterwards.

90. One of the tools that CICAD/SRU presented was the *Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances used in the Illicit Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances*, which were revised and updated in 2019. The Model Regulations are an important reference tool that countries can use to help them address common challenges in a coordinated way.

### **ES/CICAD Information Document on the Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Drug Trafficking in the Americas**

91. Since the COVID-19 pandemic was declared, countries have been taking a number of measures to address the global health crisis and contain the spread of the virus, such as closing their borders and instituting social distancing policies. Organized crime has adapted rapidly and is seeking alternatives to allow it to continue to produce and traffic drugs in the region.

92. The CICAD/SRU organized many discussions and roundtables with counternarcotic agencies and national drug commissions in OAS member states in an effort to gain a better understanding of these dynamics and therefore help member states address the new and emerging challenges.

93. The Unit also held virtual meetings and interviews with a wide range of strategic partners, including the Police Community of the Americas (AMERIPOL), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Association of Caribbean Commissioners of Police (ACCP), the Maritime Drug Trafficking Analysis Center (CIMCON), the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Maritime Analysis and Operation Center-Narcotics (MAOC (N)), and CARICOM IMPACS.

94. The outcome was an information document by the ES-CICAD on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on drug trafficking in the Americas. It describes how COVID-19 is affecting drug trafficking and how in turn it is having an impact on the capacity of law enforcement to respond during these unusual circumstances.

### **Control of maritime and port drug trafficking**

95. At the 2019 meeting of the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking, which took place in Nassau, The Bahamas, the Group asked the Executive Secretariat to gather information on the current challenges facing OAS member states in the area of maritime drug trafficking, and to identify their efforts to counter it.

96. Following up on this commitment, in May 2020, the ES/CICAD sent out a questionnaire, and responses were received from 26 agencies of 21 member states. Their responses allowed CICAD/SRU to identify: a) the main challenges being faced by member states in their efforts to counter maritime drug trafficking; b) good practices in counterdrug interdiction at sea, and c) consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for maritime narcotrafficking.

97. Together with the Dominican Republic, Chair of the Experts Group on Maritime Narcotrafficking, CICAD/SRU had planned to hold an in-person meeting of the Group in the first half of 2020. As this was postponed due to the pandemic, CICAD/SRU started to prepare a virtual meeting for the Competent Authorities, to be convened during the first quarter of 2021.

### **Strengthening gender equality in counterdrug law enforcement agencies**

98. As part of the Inter-American Program for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies (GENLEA), the Unit organized a regional course on counterdrug intelligence and investigation for female police officers of the member states of the Eastern Caribbean. The course was held in February 2020 in Bridgetown, Barbados, in cooperation with the Regional Security System (RSS).

99. In June, the Unit launched online the *GENLEA Handbook: Strategies and Good Practices for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies*. The Handbook details strategies that OAS member states can take into account in their efforts to ensure that drug trafficking control agencies are more inclusive and equitable in their counterdrug work.

### **Aerial drug trafficking**

100. During the sixty-seventh regular session of CICAD, which took place virtually in July 2020, member states stressed the need to enhance measures to combat drug trafficking by air in the region. They particularly noted the increasing use of light aircraft and ultralight planes to traffic illicit drugs, and the challenges posed by clandestine airstrips. The countries requested that ES/CICAD support member states in strengthening their capacity to respond to this serious security threat.

101. In response to this request, the CICAD/SRU has begun to develop a region-wide assessment of drug trafficking by air in the Americas. The information was gathered by means of a questionnaire sent out in November 2020. Twenty-four Competent National Authorities responded to the questionnaire. Their responses will be a key input for the work of a working group on control of drug trafficking by air, which will be convened in 2021.

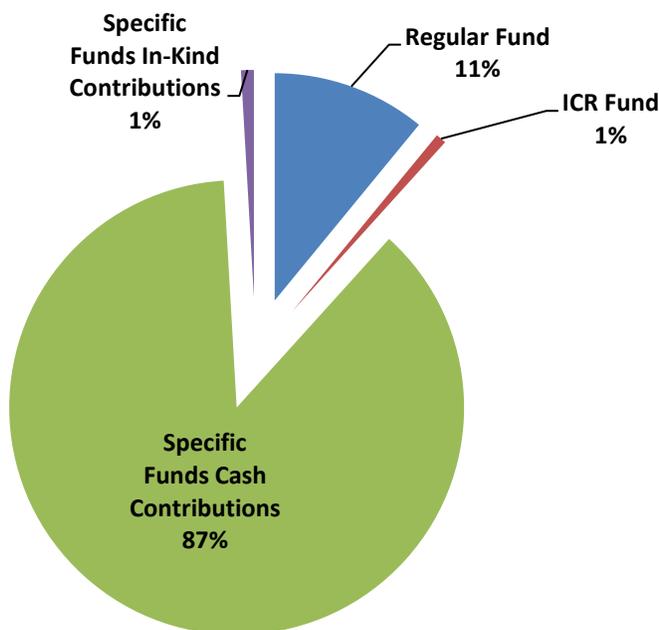
**CHAPTER III  
FINANCIAL AND BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS<sup>1/</sup>**

**A. EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT OF THE INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (ES-CICAD) 2020 BUDGET**

The OAS Regular Fund, the ICR Fund, and Specific Funds finance ES/CICAD through cash and in-kind contributions. During 2020, ES/CICAD received \$10,094,619, composed of \$8,822,419<sup>2/</sup> in cash contributions and \$91,900 in in-kind contributions, which represents a 44 percent increase over cash and in-kind contributions received in 2019.

ES/CICAD received \$1,104,200<sup>3/</sup> from the OAS Regular Fund and \$76,100<sup>4/</sup> from the ICR Fund, representing 12% of the total budget.

**Figure 1** percentage share of contributions



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1. Preliminary and unaudited figures in USD
  2. Figure includes \$8,770,894 in contributions and \$51,525 in transfers (OAS Spain Fund)
  3. 2020 Regular Fund Program-Budget – Modified Appropriation as of December 31, 2020  
[http://www.oas.org/saf/DFAMS/2020/12/RF\\_BER\\_20201231\\_SP\\_EN.pdf](http://www.oas.org/saf/DFAMS/2020/12/RF_BER_20201231_SP_EN.pdf)
  4. 2020 Fund for Indirect Cost Recovery (FICR) – Modified Appropriation as of December 31, 2020  
[http://www.oas.org/saf/DFAMS/2020/12/SR\\_SOC\\_ICR\\_20201231\\_EN.pdf](http://www.oas.org/saf/DFAMS/2020/12/SR_SOC_ICR_20201231_EN.pdf)

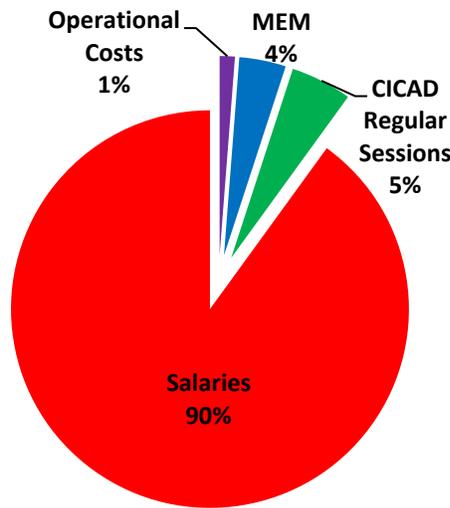
**B. OAS REGULAR FUND**

The approved 2020 budget for ES/CICAD was \$1,104,200, with a total of \$1,034,500 executed.<sup>5/</sup> The contribution financed:

1. Personnel: \$993,900.
2. Non-Personnel: \$110,300:
  - The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM): \$41,844
  - Operational cost of the Office of the Executive Secretariat: \$13,576
  - Two statutory meetings of the Commission (co-financed): \$54,880

The following graphic shows the budgetary allocations of the OAS Regular Fund to ES/CICAD:

**Figure 2** OAS Regular Fund distribution



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5. The amount does not include commitments (obligations in the amount \$1,200) as of Dec 31, 2020. Note: Under execution, the savings are due primarily to COVID-19 travel restrictions.

**C. FUND FOR INDIRECT COST RECOVERY (FICR)**

The 2020 budget was \$76,100, with \$75,300 expended. The contribution financed administrative support.

**D. SPECIFIC FUNDS**

The total contribution received from specific funds (cash and in-kind) was \$8,914,319.

The following tables detail the cash and in-kind contributions received during 2020.

**Table 1 Cash Contributions**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Canada</b>	\$1,659,746
<b>Chile</b>	\$40,000
<b>Italy</b>	\$144,383
<b>Mexico</b>	\$190,000
<b>Spain</b>	\$51,525
<b>United States</b>	\$6,736,765
<b>Total cash contribution</b>	<b>\$8,822,419</b>

**Table 2 Cash Contribution by Donor-ES/CICAD Unit**

<b>Donor</b>	<b>CICAD Unit</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Canada: Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade (DFAIT)	Institutional Strengthening Unit	\$678,006
	Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism Unit	\$285,670
	Inter-American Observatory on Drugs Unit	\$696,070
Chile: Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Executive Secretariat - General Fund	\$40,000
Italy	Institutional Strengthening Unit	\$144,383
Mexico: Fiscalía General de la República	Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism Unit	\$190,000

Donor	CICAD Unit	Amount
Spain: Transfer from OAS Spain Fund	Institutional Strengthening Unit	\$51,525
United States of America: Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) of the U.S. Department of State	Demand Reduction Unit	\$2,065,000
	Inter-American Observatory on Drugs Unit	\$930,000
	Executive Secretariat - General Fund	\$100,000
	Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism Unit	\$350,000
	Supply Reduction Unit	\$550,000
	Institutional Strengthening Unit	\$2,041,765

**Table 3 In-kind Contribution<sup>6</sup>**

Donor	Amount
Chile	\$5,000
Colombia	\$47,000
Jamaica	\$14,000
Mexico	\$1,500
Regional Security System (RSS)	\$20,000
Trinidad and Tobago	\$4,400
<b>Total in-kind contribution</b>	<b>\$91,900</b>

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6. The in-kind contributions included in this report reference the goods or services granted by member states, permanent missions, other countries, and institutions for the implementation of CICAD programs and projects. The local in-kind contributions from member state counterparts for the implementation of projects in their own national territory are not included here within.

**Table 4** In-kind Contribution by Donor-ES/CICAD Unit

<b>Contributor</b>	<b>Activity/ES CICAD Unit</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Chile</b>	Supply Reduction Unit: Police of Investigations - Technical support for the Virtual Meeting on the Control of Precursor Chemicals within the Context of the COVID-19 Pandemic held online in October 2020.	\$5,000
<b>Colombia</b>	Supply Reduction Unit: Colombian National Police - Technical and logistical support for ERCAIAD Regional Courses on Counterdrug Intelligence to Effectively Investigate and Dismantle Drug Trafficking Criminal Networks held in March in Bogota and online in June, July, and November 2020.	\$40,000
	Supply Reduction Unit: Colombian National Police - Technical and logistical support for ERCAIAD National Seminars on Strategic, Operational and Prospective Counterdrug Intelligence Analysis and Investigations held in Ecuador in March 2020.	\$7,000
<b>Jamaica</b>	Institutional Strengthening Unit: Case Care Management Curriculum On-line Pilot Training. Eight two-hour sessions held in August 2020. Coordination support, support printing and delivering training manuals to 70 local participants. Time dedicated by 70 government officials to attend the sessions.	\$14,000
<b>Mexico</b>	Institutional Strengthening Unit: Meetings/visits by CICAD staff to the Mexican states of Morelos, Chihuahua, and Mexico State held in February under the Therapeutic Justice Program. Venue, coffee breaks, AV equipment, meeting coordination support.	\$1,500
<b>Regional Security System (RSS)</b>	Supply Reduction Unit: Regional Security System (RSS) – Technical and logistical support for the regional courses on counterdrug operational intelligence and investigations for Caribbean member states held in February in Bridgetown, Barbados and online in July, August, and September 2020.	\$20,000
<b>Trinidad and Tobago</b>	Institutional Strengthening Unit: Pilot Testing of the Case Care Management Training held in Port of Spain held in Port-of-Spain January 26-31, 2020. Local transportation, logistic support, material printing support.	\$1,600
	Institutional Strengthening Unit: Case Care Management (CCM) Technical Assistance Virtual Sessions. Seven two-hour sessions held between August and November 2020. Time dedicated by 20 government officials to attend the sessions.	\$2,800