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# MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

Evaluation Report on Drug Policies

***COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION***

## Mexico

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)  
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

**2024**





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**Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:**

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**EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND**

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## PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), established by a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, Chile - 1998), is a unique multilateral evaluation tool designed to measure the progress made and challenges faced by the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) in implementing the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs of the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy, currently in force.

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) is the OAS specialized agency in charge of implementing this Mechanism.

The current MEM round is based on the objectives of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020 and their respective priority actions. These documents take into account the recommendations of the outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) and the United Nations 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, as well as cross-cutting issues, such as the gender perspective and human rights, cultural context, and social inclusion approaches, among others.

Seven evaluation rounds have been completed from 1998 to 2019 and, during 2020, the MEM Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), composed of member state delegates, agreed on a new methodology for the eighth round, consisting of annual thematic evaluations with the support of independent technical consultants, as follows: 2021 – Measures for Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support; 2022 – Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences; 2023 – Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; International Cooperation; and 2024 – Comprehensive Evaluation based on updated information from all thematic areas.

MEM evaluations are conducted based on information provided by the member states' National Coordinating Entities (NCEs), which is thoroughly analyzed by the MEM Governmental Expert Group (GEG). This group is comprised of experts designated by the countries, who do not participate in the evaluation of their own country, thereby ensuring transparency and impartiality in the process. The GEG is consistently supported by a team of independent technical consultants and the MEM Unit. The eighth round introduces a more rigorous evaluation process, requiring countries to present valid means of verification to substantiate the information submitted and demonstrate compliance with each priority action.

The GEG's comprehensive evaluation of the objectives of the CICAD Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs (POA) was conducted in 2024, covering the 2019-2024 period (unless stated otherwise). This evaluation, which incorporates updated priority actions provided in an annex, aims to present a holistic view of all POA objectives integrating evaluations from the three preceding reports that did not undergo updates this year. Notably, this is the fourth and final year of the

eighth evaluation round. The evaluation process was adapted to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, utilizing technology and virtual tools.

It is important to highlight that one of the primary purposes of the MEM evaluation reports is to provide a diagnostic tool that identifies opportunities for enhancing drug policies and strategies at both national and regional levels.

## COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION

### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

#### **Objective 1**

**Establish and/or strengthen national drug authorities, placing them at a high political level and providing them with the necessary capabilities, resources, and competencies to coordinate formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of national drug policies.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has national drug authorities, which have a legal basis. Moreover, CICAD observes that, in the country, there is an annual budget for the national drug authorities, which is integrated with the budget of several government agencies. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico has an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update national drug policies and/or strategies and that the national drug authorities coordinate the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory, international cooperation, and program evaluation.

#### **Objective 2**

**Formulate, implement, evaluate, and update comprehensive national drug policies and/or strategies that promote balanced, multidisciplinary, and evidence-based approaches, while fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, under the principle of common and shared responsibility, consistent with obligations of parties under international law, and take into account gender, age, community, cultural context, and socially inclusive development.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico collects and uses evidence as a basis for formulating and updating national drug policies and/or strategies. Additionally, CICAD observes the involvement of relevant actors from the priority areas in the development, implementation, evaluation, and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies. CICAD notes that Mexico has fully delegated responsibilities on drug issues to subnational/local governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies, in coordination with the national drug authorities, which have, in its central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, and provide technical support on drug-related issues to subnational/local governments or agencies. Moreover, the national drug authorities have coordinators, offices, or representatives in the sub-national or local territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level to respond to the drug problem. Additionally, Mexico has a specific and ongoing program to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects implemented by sub-national/local governments. CICAD observes that the country engages private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange information and best practices. CICAD notes that Mexico takes into account the OAS 2020 Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its corresponding Plan of Action to formulate or update national drug policies and strategies. Moreover, these policies and strategies take into account the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. CICAD observes that the country's national

drug policies and strategies take into account the human rights approach, the gender perspective, and the social inclusion approach. However, CICAD notes that Mexico does not have the necessary resources to implement drug policies and programs.

### **Objective 3**

**Design and coordinate national drug policies, that can be harmonized across related government policies and/or strategies, that address the fundamental causes and consequences of the drug problem.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem through a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has concrete multisectoral plans and programs to address the causes and socioeconomic consequences of the drug problem based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico participates in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions, and their internal processes. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. Also, CICAD notes that Mexico implements measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion.

### **Objective 4**

**Design, adopt, and implement alternatives to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug or drug-related offenses, while taking into account national, constitutional, legal, and administrative systems, and in accordance with relevant international instruments.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico's law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, which respect human rights and take into account the gender perspective in accordance with relevant international instruments. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country develops mechanisms to monitor and evaluate these measures, which involve academic and research institutions, as well as civil society, and promotes a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, and internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.



**Objective 5**

**Promote and implement, as appropriate, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, comprehensive programs that promote social inclusion, especially to those at-risk populations.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of at-risk populations. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country disseminates best practices and lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of at-risk populations.

**Objective 6**

**Promote proportionate sentencing for drug-related crimes that provides for penalties commensurate with the relative seriousness of offenses, in line with the international drug conventions and respecting the principles of due process, with gender perspective, age, community, and a human rights approach.**

CICAD observes that Mexico promotes legislation that provides for proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses in accordance with domestic law and has special courts for these offenses. However, CICAD notes that the country does not promote legal reforms regarding proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses.

**MEASURES OF PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUPPORT****Objective 1**

**Establish comprehensive and integrated drug demand reduction policies with a public health focus, that are evidence-based, multidisciplinary, multisectoral, respectful of human rights, that consider the gender perspective, community and take into account the guidelines and/or recommendations of specialized international and/or regional organizations.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has drug demand reduction policies that include programs in the areas of health promotion, prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social integration, and recovery, which include the gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches. CICAD also observes that the country develops, strengthens, and implements coordination mechanisms for collecting, analyzing, disseminating, and accessing information on prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and recovery services. However, it does not develop, strengthen, or implement these mechanisms for social reintegration services. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Mexico has monitoring instruments for drug demand reduction programs and has carried out various evaluations of its drug demand reduction programs. In addition, CICAD observes that the country develops and implements coordination mechanisms to support the development and implementation of drug demand reduction programs that allow for the participation of and coordination with civil society and other stakeholders. CICAD also

notes that the country promotes national prevention, treatment, care, recovery, rehabilitation, and social integration measures and programs, with a comprehensive and balanced drug demand reduction approach and, in that regard, promotes national standards recognized by the member states, the “International Standards on Drug Use Prevention,” and the “International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders” both developed jointly by the WHO and UNODC.

### **Objective 2**

**Establish or strengthen an integrated system of evidence-based universal, selective, and indicated drug use prevention programs that prioritize at-risk populations, as well as environmental prevention, that incorporate a human rights, gender, age, and multicultural perspective.**

CICAD notes that Mexico develops and implements drug use prevention programs in various population groups. However, it does not implement specific programs for other important population groups. CICAD also observes that the country has conducted community situational assessments to identify specific needs, risks, and protective factors in 334 communities of 261 municipalities. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have these assessments for other key population groups. In addition, CICAD observes that the country promotes the exchange of research, experiences, and best practices to improve the effectiveness of prevention programs, taking into account the “International Standards on Drug Use Prevention,” developed jointly by the WHO and UNODC.

### **Objective 3**

**Establish and strengthen, as appropriate, national care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration systems for people who use drugs, that are integrated with health systems, and that respect human rights, and offer gender-specific services, and that, to the extent possible, are designed and administered in accordance with internationally accepted quality standards.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has comprehensive and inclusive care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration programs and services in the public health network and in social protection, which take into account the gender, age group, and human rights approaches. CICAD also observes that the country takes into account the “International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders” of the WHO and UNODC and the use of the “Technical Guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, and care for injecting drug users,” published by the WHO, UNODC, and UNAIDS. In addition, CICAD notes that the country implements mechanisms to continuously monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration programs and comprehensive public and private facilities. These mechanisms take into account the inclusion of the human rights, age, and cultural context approaches. In addition, CICAD observes that Mexico has mechanisms to protect the rights of persons in treatment programs and services, which have protocols to protect the confidentiality of the information provided by those who receive these

services and include the process of providing adequate information on treatment and informed consent. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Mexico has early intervention, care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration alternatives for criminal offenders who use drugs. CICAD also observes that the country offers a program for early intervention, care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration for incarcerated drug users. In addition, CICAD notes that Mexico implements cooperation mechanisms with social and community actors that provide social and community support services to contribute to the social integration of people who use drugs. CICAD also observes that Mexico promotes regional and international cooperation and shares best practices in increasing access to and availability of evidence-based recovery and treatment services, including access to naloxone and other medications used in the treatment of substance use disorders. In addition, CICAD notes that the country promotes measures to address the stigma and social marginalization associated with substance use disorders.

#### **Objective 4**

##### **Foster ongoing training and certification of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation service providers.**

CICAD observes that Mexico implements ongoing competency-based training mechanisms in the areas of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation, and participates in prevention and treatment training programs offered by specialized international organizations. These programs take into account the gender perspective. In addition, CICAD notes that the country certifies personnel who work in prevention and treatment services but does not certify personnel who work in rehabilitation or social integration services. CICAD also notes that Mexico has conducted situational assessments to identify training needs of personnel who work in prevention, early intervention, care, treatment, and rehabilitations programs. However, the country has not conducted assessments for their recovery or social integration programs. In addition, CICAD observes that Mexico has not developed specialized programs in response to training needs identified by situational assessments.

#### **Objective 5**

##### **Establish and/or strengthen government institutional capacities to regulate, enable, accredit, and supervise prevention programs and care, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration services.**

CICAD observes that Mexico has regulatory measures to accredit prevention programs and care and treatment services. CICAD also notes that the country uses CICAD's Indispensable Criteria for the opening and operating of drug use disorders treatment centers. On the other hand, CICAD notes that the country does not have supervisory mechanisms to ensure that prevention programs meet the standards of international quality criteria. Nonetheless, the country has supervisory mechanisms to ensure that public and private treatment and rehabilitation services meet the standards of international quality criteria. In addition, CICAD observes with satisfaction

that Mexico has conducted an assessment at the national level in 2017, as well as an evaluation at the regional level, to determine the needs for care, treatment, and reintegration services.

## **MEASURES TO CONTROL AND COUNTER THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS, AND TO ADDRESS THEIR CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES**

### **Objective 1**

**Develop and/or strengthen national- and regional-level interdiction capacity, as well as the capacity to reduce the illicit cultivation, production, trafficking, and distribution of plant-based and synthetic drugs through the use of comprehensive and balanced programs in accordance with the realities of each country's domestic legislation and respect for human rights.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico implements ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, or dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations, and observes that the country has protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. Additionally, CICAD observes that the agencies in charge of drug control in Mexico implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has programs or strategies aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction, through monitoring, inspections, and checkpoints. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico has laws providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking. CICAD also notes that the country has updated assessments and studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes. Additionally, CICAD observes that Mexico implements actions to identify organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes, carries out inter-institutional collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in these crimes, and has participated in operations and investigations in cooperation with other countries aimed at dismantling these groups. CICAD also notes that the country has institutions that are responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS), and the country has and participates in ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on these substances. CICAD notes that the country has mechanisms to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet. CICAD observes that the country has partnerships and information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes, and the country uses tools and resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals. CICAD notes that Mexico has national authorities with the appropriate budget, human and material resources for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets; and its competent personnel receive ongoing training in this area.

## **Objective 2**

**Strengthen national measures to address the challenges posed by NPS and illicit synthetic drugs, and the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, and illicit amphetamine derivatives.**

CICAD observes with satisfaction that Mexico has an early warning system (EWS) to identify or trace new psychoactive substances (NPS), illicit synthetic drugs, or the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, illicit amphetamine derivatives, and other substances subject to international control. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country improves its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of special investigative techniques, updated equipment, and acquisition of technology. Furthermore, CICAD observes that Mexico has regulatory frameworks and guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country participates in the INCB's Project ION. CICAD observes that Mexico has innovative legislation approaches to synthetic opioids for non-medical use or NPS.

## **Objective 3**

**Strengthen or develop legal and institutional frameworks for the effective monitoring and control of essential chemical substances and precursors to prevent diversion of these substances to the manufacturing of illicit drugs and counter its trafficking, including periodically updating national lists of controlled chemical substances.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has a competent national authority responsible for developing guides, codes of conduct, or other instruments to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances and has developed such instruments and mechanisms. CICAD also observes that the country has an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances and that its competent authority carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country carries out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing international mechanisms of substances, their analogs, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health. Additionally, CICAD observes that Mexico has legislation incorporating the control measures in Article 12 of the 1988 United Nations Convention to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities, which include all the control measures in paragraphs 8 and 9, and requests for information set forth in Paragraph 10. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country uses the INCB's PEN Online information system for pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances, as well as the PICS system. Additionally, CICAD observes that Mexico receives training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country has budgetary mechanisms to ensure allocation of resources to acquire necessary equipment and supplies for the preliminary identification of substances and the protective equipment required by personnel in charge of these tasks. CICAD also observes that Mexico uses the OAS/CICAD Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

**Objective 4**

**Ensure adequate availability and accessibility of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes, while also preventing their diversion towards illicit activities, in accordance with international drug control conventions.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has special processes for issuing authorizations for the national production, import, and export of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes and an updated register of individuals or companies importing and exporting substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country has training or awareness activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has a regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

**Objective 5**

**Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent diversion of controlled pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances, and those containing precursor substances used in the production of controlled substances.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances, issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors authorizing the handling of these substances and carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle them. CICAD observes that the country has criminal, civil, and administrative penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico participates in periodic training programs for personnel responsible for preventing trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and shares information with other regional and global systems on this matter. Furthermore, CICAD notes that the country does not use the INCB's I2ES system and does not have alternative mechanisms that are ready to issue, load, and exchange expeditiously import and export authorizations of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical use; moreover, the country has not received training on the I2ES system.

**Objective 6**

**Strengthen or develop specific operational and intelligence gathering and sharing mechanisms to detect methods used by criminal organizations, including the exploitation of land, riverine, maritime, and aerial routes.**

CICAD notes that Mexico participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country participates in periodic training programs and other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico has information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information, at a domestic, regional, and international level, to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. CICAD also notes that the country has tools that promote and strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information and intelligence among domestic law enforcement agencies responsible for drug interdiction and effective border control. Moreover, CICAD observes that Mexico has a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

**Objective 7**

**Establish, update, or reinforce, as appropriate, the legislative and institutional frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking, such as the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has strengthened its legislative frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has periodic training programs for officials and those in vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico has a protocol that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. CICAD also observes that the country has mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. CICAD notes that Mexico has a financial intelligence unit, and the country has information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. CICAD notes that the country has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico has established partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities.



**Objective 8**

**Establish and/or strengthen agencies for the administration and disposition of seized and/or forfeited assets in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes, in line with applicable international law, and in line with relevant standards, such as the FATF recommendations and the recommendations on preventive freezing of assets.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has a designated competent authority responsible for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets and with regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country participates in specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets. Moreover, CICAD recognizes that Mexico has legislation, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture, and management of assets and instruments derived from drug trafficking and other related crimes.

**Objective 9**

**Design, implement, and strengthen comprehensive and balanced national programs to reduce the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of drugs through the adoption of effective measures, such as comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, enhanced law enforcement cooperation, and other appropriate policies and programs, taking into account the particular needs of sub-national regions of each country, respecting human rights.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico has designed, implemented, and updated national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, or manufacture of drugs. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico does not consider the licit traditional use in designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs; however, it does include environmental protection measures in these policies and programs. Additionally CICAD observes that the country has not established mechanisms for interinstitutional cooperation between public and private institutions to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs. However, CICAD notes with satisfaction that Mexico supports the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors, which include the participation from civil society and other social stakeholders.



### **Objective 10**

**Design, implement or strengthen long-term alternative development programs, including rural and urban alternatives, comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, as appropriate, while respecting human rights.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has designed and implemented comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops since 1996 and has a national entity that coordinates and evaluates the implementation of these programs, which take into account the human rights perspective. However, CICAD observes that the country does not exchange experiences and best practices with other countries in the Hemisphere on the design and implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country does not promote or disseminate the results of these programs, and the benefits they provide to affected communities. Likewise, CICAD observes that the country does not use the results indicators to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs in the medium and long terms. CICAD notes that its comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs are supplemented by public policies that strengthen the government's presence in areas affected by illicit crops, which are implemented by various agencies. However, communities and target groups do not participate in the design, implementation, and supervision processes of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico does not promote partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society, and international financial institutions to establish programs that lead to job creation in areas affected by illicit drug cultivation and traffic.

### **Objective 11**

**Design and implement plans and/or programs to mitigate and reduce the impact of illicit crops and drug production on the environment, in cooperation with local communities and national policies of member states.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has not carried out, during the evaluation period (2019-2022), research or studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production, therefore, the priority actions of this objective are not applicable.

### **Objective 12**

**Address the effects of small-scale drug trafficking on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has developed and implemented approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social

cohesion, and citizen security. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country promotes interagency exchange of information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking in the health, social, economic, and security sectors. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico has plans to prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.

## **RESEARCH, INFORMATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION**

### **Objective 1**

**Establish or strengthen national observatories on drugs, or similar technical offices, strengthening national drug information systems, and foster scientific research to generate, collect, organize, analyze, and disseminate information to inform the development and implementation of evidence-based drug policies and strategies.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has two institutions that fulfill the functions of a National Drug Observatory (NDO), which were created through a legal basis and have been assigned financial and human resources to carry out their functions. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has established and maintained working relationships with academic and research institutions and has carried out studies on the drug problem through them. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries, has carried out studies on drug use applying the SIDUC methodology, and has used the CICAD standard indicators for national drug information networks for the collection, analysis, and reporting of national drug related data and information. Likewise, the country has conducted studies that use methods that are non-representative of the population to obtain information on drugs that can be shared with other countries that have carried out studies with similar methodologies. Furthermore, CICAD observes that one of the institutions that fulfills the functions of an observatory in Mexico has a national drug information network (DIN), which interacts through meetings and document exchanges, and publishes a periodic report. Also, the country has an early warning system (EWS) to identify NPS or other emerging drug-related threats, which shares information, alerts, and reports with the Early Warning System of the Americas (SATA), and has a mechanism to share information in real time. Additionally, CICAD notes that one of the institutions that fulfills the functions of an observatory in the country carries out training sessions with local stakeholders to enhance data collection and management, as well as meetings and other workshops where the results of studies and other information gathering activities are shared with local stakeholders. Nevertheless, CICAD observes that Mexico has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers. On the other hand, CICAD notes that one of the institutions that fulfills the functions of an observatory in the country promotes and disseminates best practices or the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.

## **Objective 2**

**Expand access to information on drug use and related issues through the use of sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies, ensuring that countries have the information necessary to develop sound demand reduction programs and policies.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has carried out and published three demand reduction studies during the evaluation period (2019-2023). Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes. Moreover, CICAD notes that Mexico has conducted studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs and interventions, as well as process and intermediate outcome evaluations. However, the country has not conducted impact evaluations of these programs. On the other hand, Mexico has a mechanism to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation and recovery and social integration programs and services in the public health and/or social protection network.

## **Objective 3**

**Expand and enhance the collection and dissemination of information on illicit drug production, trafficking, and related issues, through the use of sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies.**

CICAD notes that Mexico has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs and has information related to supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes. Additionally, the country carries out periodic studies on the drug market for illicit drugs but not on the medical and scientific uses and other legal use of narcotics or psychotropic substances, subject to the international control system. CICAD observes that Mexico collects information for the development of studies on drug prices, purity or concentration, and chemical profile of drugs, and conducts chemical characterization or tests of purity for substances that may or may not be subject to international control. Moreover, the country has mechanisms through which substances that have been identified as not being under international control can be placed under control. CICAD notes that Mexico has an agency that is responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances, and is part of the national early warning system (EWS) and the national drug information network (DIN). Additionally, the country implements and participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. CICAD observes that Mexico's DIN relies on standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply and that the country participates in training activities for DIN stakeholders to improve and strengthen the mechanisms that are needed for the collection and exchange of information on drug supply.

**Objective 4**

**Participate in and strengthen the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process, considering its recommendations.**

CICAD notes that, for the eighth round of evaluation of the MEM, Mexico collected information on the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 and submitted it in a timely manner for evaluation by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG). CICAD observes that, for the eighth evaluation round of the MEM, the country designated delegates for all the MEM groups, actively participating and contributing to the evaluation process. However, CICAD notes that Mexico did not carry out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions. On the other hand, CICAD observes that the country has promoted the analysis of the findings of MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies for national institutions to identify areas where technical assistance is needed to improve national drug-related policies and programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico has reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies and identified opportunities to increase cooperation and partnerships with other member states or share best practices and lessons learned (horizontal cooperation).

**INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION****Objective 1**

**Promote and strengthen cooperation and coordination mechanisms to foster technical assistance, improve exchange of information and experiences, and share best practices and lessons learned on drug policies.**

CICAD notes that Mexico develops and implements a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs. Additionally, the country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. Moreover, Mexico promotes the exchange, with member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, of best practices on training, specialization, and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing the national drug policies and strategies. Additionally, the country participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others. Furthermore, Mexico has bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries, focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to drug trafficking and related crimes. However, CICAD observes that the country has not promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations but has promoted information sharing among them. Also, CICAD notes that Mexico promotes the dissemination of good practices or the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies.

## **Objective 2**

**Strengthen international cooperation as defined in the international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, maintaining respect for human rights.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that the competent authorities of Mexico carry out cooperative activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. Moreover, CICAD observed that the country carries out activities to strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses. Additionally, CICAD notes that Mexico has enacted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), one legislative measure to improve the implementation of the obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has ratified or acceded to all of the international legal instruments of the United Nations and all of the OAS Inter-American legal instruments regarding the world drug problem and related crimes.

# **ANNEX**

## **PRIORITY ACTIONS WITH UPDATES**

## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### OBJECTIVE 1

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITIES, PLACING THEM AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL AND PROVIDING THEM WITH THE NECESSARY CAPABILITIES, RESOURCES, AND COMPETENCIES TO COORDINATE FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION OF NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES.

**Priority Action 1.3:** Allocate the necessary resources (material, financial, and human) for the effective functioning of the national drug authorities.

In Mexico there is an annual budget for the national drug authorities. It is included in the budget of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (FGR) and the Security and Citizen Protection, Health, Navy, and National Defense Secretariats.

Following is the amount of the annual budget of the national drug authorities for the years 2019-2024:

Institution	Annual budget amount (U.S. Dollars)					
	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
PGR (2019) FGR (2020-2024)	847,400,440	921,983,244	953,608,766	921,983,244	1,024,481,693,749	1, 144,888.464
Security and Citizen Protection	1,866,753	3,320,399,431	3,502,065,605	3,320,399,431	5,864,298,531	6,267,585,995
Health	6,801,325,700	7,111,391,591	8,027,080,177	7,111,391,591	11,571,110,931	5,743,577,923
Navy	1,633,042,156	1,852,434,964	1,958,362,480	1,852,434,964	2,311,729,877	4,257,094,141
National Defense	5,170,720,510	5,190,510,570	6,213,307,314	5,746,896,610	6,177,673,168	15,363,215,909

**OBJECTIVE  
2**

**FORMULATE, IMPLEMENT, EVALUATE, AND UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT PROMOTE BALANCED, MULTIDISCIPLINARY, AND EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACHES, WHILE FULLY RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, UNDER THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GENDER, AGE, COMMUNITY, CULTURAL CONTEXT, AND SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.**

**Priority Action 2.3:** Promote sub-national/local management of drug policies and/or strategies through greater coordination and/or delegation of responsibilities, as appropriate, between sub-national/local and national agencies, taking into account the socio-cultural, demographic and other differences of each region.

Mexico has fully delegated responsibilities on drug issues to subnational/local governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies, in coordination with the national drug authorities. Thus, responsibilities are delegated to the State Prosecutor's Offices. However, the state authorities receive permanent follow-up and support from the federal authorities, who coordinate directly with them. Although they bear full responsibility for implementation, the state authorities are supported by the federal budget and, therefore, there is a system for monitoring compliance with their actions and the scope of those actions.

The country's national drug authorities have, in their central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, and provide technical support on drug-related issues to subnational/local governments or agencies, which exercises the powers that the laws and other applicable provisions grant to the Ministry of Health, in terms of prevention and control of addictions, including those requiring the participation and coordination of the agencies and entities of the Federal Public Administration.

Mexico's national drug authorities have coordinators, offices, or representatives within the subnational/local territories as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level, to respond to the drug problem. In this regard, the decentralized structure is the State Mental Health and Addictions Commission, which is generally attached to the State Health Services. From a budgetary and regulatory point of view, it is dependent, but it is empowered to draw up its state programs, which are usually in line with national programs and policies. It is responsible for promoting and supporting the actions of the public, social and private sectors aimed at preventing and combating public health problems caused by alcoholism, tobacco use, and drug dependence as well as coordinating and evaluating the sectoral programs against addictions, holding regular meetings every three months to follow up on the agreements and commitments reached at the regular and other working meetings held.

The country has a specific and ongoing program to transfer funds or finance drug-related initiatives or projects implemented by sub-national/local governments. Thus, there are specific



agreements for the transfer of federal resources to fund actions under code E025 of the budget program: "Prevention and Handling of Addictions."

**Priority Action 2.6: Integrate a human rights, gender, and social inclusion approach, particularly with respect to at-risk populations, in the process of formulating, implementing, and updating national drug policies and/or strategies.**

Mexico's national drug policies and strategies take the human rights approach into account. Thus, the perspective of respect for the human rights of users has been part of the national policy. Consequently, mindful of the reformulation of the fight against drugs, the current administration has taken affirmative measures, such as Amending the General Health Law's sections on mental health and addictions, with a view to paying special attention to the human rights of people with mental and substance use disorders.

Likewise, the Juvenile Integration Centers, A.C. (*Centros de Integración Juvenil, A.C. - CIJ*) incorporate the human rights approach in their institutional policy, mission, vision, objectives, and values. Both in-house courses and online seminars of the permanent training program for medical and technical personnel of the CIJ and other courses and diplomas have a human rights, intersectional, and gender focus.

Mexico's national drug policies and strategies take into account the gender perspective. Thus, drug demand reduction activities are funded through a specific budget for implementing policies and programs with a gender perspective. Likewise, this perspective is explicitly embraced in the organization and programmatic structure of the Mental Health and Addictions Specific Action Program. CIJ also has several publications with a gender and human rights perspective.

In addition, the gender perspective has been incorporated into the institutional policy of the National Commission against Addictions (CONADIC), as reflected in its mission, vision, objectives, and institutional values. Likewise, the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH) established the Policy on Gender Equality, Non-Discrimination, Inclusion, Diversity, and Access to a Life Free of Violence 2020-2024. Likewise, support manuals have been drawn up with a gender perspective to assist a number of different population groups; awareness campaigns are conducted on dates with a particular significance from a gender perspective; and studies on drug use in the target population use data disaggregated by sex.

Mexico's national drug authorities do not require technical support to develop and implement gender-sensitive programs.

The country's national drug policies and strategies take the social inclusion approach into account. In this regard, the interagency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of people affected by the drug phenomenon are: The National Program for the Social Prevention of Violence and Crime, which seeks to address four priority segments of the population (children, adolescents, young people, and women); the 2021-2024 National Program

for Equality and Non-Discrimination, which seeks to generate mechanisms for measuring situations of discrimination; the National Youth Program aimed at reducing the exclusion of young people and attaching importance to the contribution of these groups to the country's development; and the Program for Strengthening Gender Mainstreaming to promote the incorporation of the gender perspective in the regulatory framework, in planning instruments and programs, as well as in governmental actions to implement such policies in the states, municipalities, and in mayors' offices in Mexico City.

**Priority Action 2.7: Provide adequate financial and other necessary resources for the implementation of drug policies and programs.**

Mexico does not have the necessary resources to implement drug policies and programs since, due to the austerity policies of the current administration, resources are limited.

**OBJECTIVE  
3**

**DESIGN AND COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES, THAT CAN BE HARMONIZED ACROSS RELATED GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES, THAT ADDRESS THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE DRUG PROBLEM.**

**Priority Action 3.1: Establish and/or strengthen interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms, to achieve a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach to the drug problem, including its causes and consequences.**

Mexico has interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem through a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences. Thus, the National Addiction Prevention Strategy is conceptually rooted in the need for interagency links as a prerequisite for achieving its objectives, including preventing or delaying the use of psychoactive substances, while at the same time improving people's circumstances so as to address the psychosocial determinants of consumption.

There is also a Federal Coordination Board for the National Strategy for the Prevention of Addictions, in which institutions such as the Welfare Secretariat, the Labor and Social Security Secretariat, the Public Education Secretariat, the Culture Secretariat, the Mexican Youth Institute, the CIJ, the Mexican Social Security Institute, and others, participate.

CIJ has also joined the civil society institutions that participate in the Classroom Strategy "If you do drugs, you harm yourself" promoted by the Ministry of Public Education, with training for teachers and information for students and parents. In addition, CIJ collaborated with the training of its staff and other institutions in the course on the Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) Intervention Guide for mental, neurological, and substance use disorders in non-specialist health settings. It also participates in the *Mesas Espejo Estatales*, through their

operating units located in each entity.

CIJ has also participated in interagency coordination mechanisms such as the National Mental Health and Addictions Telementoring Program, the Mental Health and Psychosocial Support Subcommittee for the COVID-19 contingency and the Mental Health Technical Working Group (GTTSM), which has commissions for the development of a Comprehensive Plan for mental health care in emergencies, Emergency Risk Communication, Building Skills and Knowledge in Mental Health in Emergencies, and Monitoring and Evaluation of Mental Health Response in Emergencies.

**Priority Action 3.4: Promote comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption.**

Mexico promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. In this regard, the basis for the formulation of the 2022-2024 National Public Security Plan is the 2019-2024 National Development Plan, which shapes the actions of the Government of Mexico during the current administration for the equitable, inclusive, comprehensive, feasible, and sustainable development of the country with a gender perspective, non-discrimination, intercultural, cultural, and intergenerational cohesion, with a differential and specialized approach. Within this framework, the National Public Security Program establishes its priority objectives, priority strategies, and specific actions with a change in the security paradigm implemented in previous six-year periods, to take into account the multidimensional nature of the problem and the incorporation of cross-cutting and inclusive approaches, focusing on national and internal security, crime prevention, and the procurement and administration of justice.

There is a National Program for the Social Prevention of Violence and Crime, which is a program derived from the National Development Plan, coordinated by the Ministry of Security and Citizen Protection, and implemented by the various agencies of the Federal Public Administration. The program has five proprietary objectives in the key areas it addresses:

1. Prevent causes and risk factors that generate violence and crime in socially backward and crime-ridden population groups.
2. Promote the pacification of the country through citizen and community participation, working with young people, and voluntary disarmament for peace.
3. Improve the response of security institutions to prevent the commission of crimes.
4. Prevent behavior and factors conducive to gender-based violence.
5. Promote social reintegration to move towards a culture of peace and legality.

In addition, employment, social development, addiction prevention, education, prevention of human trafficking, school bullying, gender violence, cyber bullying and violence, discrimination, conflict mediation, promotion of cultural, sports and community cohesion activities, among others, are considered important issues.

**Priority Action 3.6: Implement measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion.**

Mexico implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion. Thus, the objectives of the National Program for the Social Prevention of Violence and Crime include promoting the pacification of the country through citizen and community participation, working with young people, and voluntary disarmament for peace through the following priority actions:

- Promoting cultural, artistic, and sports activities in public spaces to strengthen healthy coexistence, recreation, and social and individual development, in order to foster community cohesion and prevent crime
- Promoting actions for citizen participation, awareness, and community training in municipalities and mayor's districts, for the peaceful settlement of disputes and a culture of peace
- Creating and strengthening the Networks of Women Peace Builders through the state centers and areas of social prevention and the Instances of Women in the Federative Entities (IMEF)
- Promoting programs and actions that foster a sense of belonging, identity, and community, in order to strengthen social and intergenerational ties and have an impact on the social prevention of violence and crime in the municipalities and mayor's districts
- Promoting the recovery of public spaces in municipalities and mayor's districts, with citizen participation, to foster social cohesion and community crime prevention
- Promoting the formation of safety networks in neighborhoods, districts (*barrios*), and towns in municipalities and mayor's districts with high crime rates with the help of young peace promoters, who provide training and foster community participation

At the national level, citizens have various ways to participate involving public hearings, accountability, citizen collaboration, citizen observatories, citizen assemblies, and participatory budgeting. The purpose of these forms of participation is to contribute to the proper use of the financial and material resources allocated.

Likewise, social prevention promotes affirmative actions in education, culture, and healthy habits, with a gender perspective and citizen participation, to generate environments that foster coexistence, peace, and citizen security, with respect for human rights and non-discrimination. Some of these programs are:

- Internal and External Corruption Whistleblower Citizens. (*Sistema de Ciudadanos Alertadores Internos y Externos de la Corrupción*). This platform contributes to the work of preventing, auditing, and overseeing the actions and assets of public servants and encourages citizen participation through complaints filed directly by the population
- The scholarships granted from kindergarten through higher education have made it possible to strengthen education for the population living in poverty, to reduce social backwardness and provide equal opportunities, and to contribute to the social prevention of violence and

delinquency

- Public Security Contributions Fund (FASP). This is a budgetary fund, provided for in the Fiscal Coordination Law (Fiscal Year 2022), for Social Prevention of Violence and Crime with Citizen Participation, through which resources are transferred to the states to comply with national public safety strategies
- Support Plan for the State of Guerrero. The Violet Protocol is implemented to address violence against women, with the participation of the three levels of government and sectors of civil society

## **MEASURES OF PREVENTION, TREATMENT AND RECOVERY SUPPORT**

### **OBJECTIVE 2**

**ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF EVIDENCE-BASED UNIVERSAL, SELECTIVE, AND INDICATED DRUG USE PREVENTION PROGRAMS THAT PRIORITIZE AT-RISK POPULATIONS, AS WELL AS ENVIRONMENTAL PREVENTION, THAT INCORPORATE A HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER, AGE, AND MULTICULTURAL PERSPECTIVE.**

**Priority Action 2.1:** Develop and implement evidence-based drug use prevention strategies and/or programs in the school, family, work, and community settings.

**Priority Action 2.4:** Implement selective prevention programs aimed at at-risk populations, in particular at children, adolescents, youth, and women.

**Priority Action 2.5:** Develop and strengthen indicated prevention programs aimed at individuals at increased risk of developing substance use disorders.

Mexico develops and implements the following prevention strategies or programs:

Population Group	Estimated Coverage			Strategy / Program	Type of Program
	Target Population	Coverage rate			
School children and university students:	29,065,648	6,688,578	45.5	- Model of Prevention and Care of Mental Health and Addictions in Primary Care Centers for Addictions - Preventive Program "To live without addictions"	Universal, selective, and indicated
• Preschool	4,734,627	77,605	1.6	- Model of Prevention and Care of Mental Health and Addictions in Primary Care Centers for Addictions - Preventive Program "To live without addictions"	Universal
• Primary	13,862,321	2,294,409	16.5		Universal
• Secondary	6,407,056	7,772,498	100		Selective
• University, tertiary education	4,061,644	3,101,936	76.3		Selective

Population Group	Estimated Coverage			Strategy / Program	Type of Program
	Target Population	Coverage rate			
Gender:					
• Female	64,540,634	12,704,952	19.6	- Model of Prevention and Care of Mental Health and Addictions in Primary Care Centers for Addictions - Preventive Program "To live without addictions"	Universal, selective, and indicated
• Male	61,473,390	11,381,573	18.5		Universal, selective, and indicated
Community	-	4,336,773	-	- Model of Prevention and Care of Mental Health and Addictions in Primary Care Centers for Addictions  - Preventive Program "To live without addictions"	Universal, selective, and indicated
Indigenous people	7,364,645	1.222	0.02		Selective and indicated
Migrants and refugees	-	7,891	-		Selective and indicated
Persons in the workplace	61,121,324	616.187	1.0		Universal, selective, and indicated

The country does not implement specific programs for the following population groups: children, youth, or adults in street situations; family; LGBTIQ+; or incarcerated individuals.

### OBJECTIVE 3

**ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN, AS APPROPRIATE, NATIONAL CARE, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION, RECOVERY, AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION SYSTEMS FOR PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS, THAT ARE INTEGRATED WITH HEALTH SYSTEMS, AND THAT RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS, AND OFFER GENDER-SPECIFIC SERVICES, AND THAT, TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, ARE DESIGNED AND ADMINISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED QUALITY STANDARDS.**

#### **Priority Action 3.3: Promote measures to protect the rights of persons in treatment.**

Mexico has mechanisms to protect the rights of persons in treatment programs and services. Thus, the procedure for admitting applicants for treatment includes verification that there is a voluntary application for admission of the patient to treatment. In addition, the interventions carried out take into account the level of risk, severity, and deterioration of each of the disorders and are conducted in compliance with NOM-028-SSA2-2009 for the prevention, treatment, and control of addictions and applying the procedures set forth in the Medical Specialty Units (UNEME) - Community Center for Mental Health and Addictions (CECOSAMA).

During supervision of the care units, the supervisors monitor the protection of patients' rights with respect to their safety, care, food, non-isolation, etc. Likewise, users of the services are usually interviewed in order to ascertain that they are receiving dignified treatment with total

respect for human rights.

These mechanisms have protocols to protect the confidentiality of the information provided by those receiving these services and include procedures for providing adequate information regarding treatment and informed consent.

**Priority Action 3.4:** Promote and offer alternative means for providing early intervention, care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration services for criminal offenders who use drugs, as an alternative to criminal prosecution and/or imprisonment.

Mexico has early intervention, care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration alternatives for criminal offenders who use drugs. Thus, through legally mandated treatment referrals, those criminal law offenders who meet the legal requirements for accessing the alternative solution mechanisms and who have a substance use disorder may access comprehensive treatment that will address not only their substance use, but also their physical and psychiatric comorbidities, as an alternative to criminal proceedings or a mandatory custody sentence.

The country has a Therapeutic Justice Program supported by the National Law on Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms in Criminal Matters, the National Law on Criminal Execution (LNEP), the General Law of the National Public Security System, the General Health Law, the General Law for the Social Prevention of Violence and Crime, the 2019-2024 National Development Plan, and the National Strategy for the Prevention of Addictions (ENPA).

## OBJECTIVE

4

## FOSTER ONGOING TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND REHABILITATION SERVICE PROVIDERS.

**Priority Action 4.1:** Implement ongoing competency-based training mechanisms, in collaboration with academic institutions and other specialized organizations.

Mexico implements ongoing competency-based training mechanisms in the areas of prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation as follows:

- Skills standards. The National Commission against Addictions (CONADIC) and the Juvenile Integration Centers, A.C. (*Centros de Integración Juvenil, A.C. - CIJ*) continuously train and evaluate personnel who implement prevention and counseling programs to evaluate them later and certify their skills, through the following diploma courses:
  - Diploma in Multidimensional Family Therapy for the treatment of addictions and family violence for professionals in the areas of psychology, medicine, and social work
  - Diploma in Neurosciences and substance addictions for graduates in medicine, psychology, social work, sociology, pedagogy, chemistry, and nursing



- Diploma in Prevention and Treatment of Drug Use for professionals in medicine, psychology, social work, and nursing
- Diploma for Medical and Psychological Professionals to help people stop smoking.
- Addictions Counseling
- Implementation of preventive interventions for psychoactive substance use in school contexts.
- Teaching programs:
  - Professional training in addictions 2019 (*Centros de Integración Juvenil*/Juvenile Integration Centers)
  - Professional training in addictions 2020 (*Centros de Integración Juvenil*/Juvenile Integration Centers)
  - Specialization in Psychiatry | Specialization in Mental Health Nursing ("Ramón de la Fuente Muñiz" National Institute of Psychiatry)
  - Highly Specialized Postgraduate Courses in Psychiatry. Addiction Management
  - Master's and Doctoral Program in Psychology. School of Psychology
  - Residency program in addictions in the Master's Program in Psychology

The country participates in the following prevention and treatment training programs offered by specialized international organizations:

International Organizations	Type of Program	Name of the Program	Approaches taken into account
UNODC	Prevention and treatment	"Diseño de políticas de prevención y tratamiento de los trastornos por consumo de drogas con base en evidencia científica" (Design of drug use disorder prevention and treatment policies based on scientific evidence)	Gender and Human Rights
Colombo Plan	Treatment	"Capacitación para formación de formadores en tratamiento básico de consumo de drogas" (Training for training of trainers in basic drug abuse treatment)	Gender and Human Rights
CICAD-OAS	Treatment	Universal Treatment Curriculum	Gender and Human Rights

These programs take the gender perspective into account. Thus, the programs consider the physiological consequences and impact of drug use in men and women on a differentiated basis. On the other hand, in the context of prevention and intervention, it is possible to propose intentionally directing and benefiting specific groups of women or men, while considering their



specific needs and possible results of the interventions.

## **MEASURES TO CONTROL AND COUNTER THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS, AND TO ADDRESS THEIR CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES**

<b>OBJECTIVE</b> <b>1</b>	<b>DEVELOP AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL- AND REGIONAL-LEVEL INTERDICTION CAPACITY, AS WELL AS THE CAPACITY TO REDUCE THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF PLANT-BASED AND SYNTHETIC DRUGS THROUGH THE USE OF COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY’S DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.</b>
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**Priority Action 1.2:** Implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming in agencies and organizations in charge of drug control.

The following agencies in charge of drug control in Mexico implement policies promoting gender mainstreaming:

- The Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (FGR), through the Gender Equality Unit
- National Guard
- The High-Level Security Group, with the Drug Policy Subgroup, comprised of the Secretariat of Security and Citizen Protection, the Secretariat of Defense, the Secretariat of the Navy, the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE), the National Guard, FGR – Federal Criminal Intelligence Center (CFIC), the National Commission against Addictions (CONADIC), the Federal Commission for Protection against Health Risks (COFEPRIS), and the Tax Administration Service (SAT)
- The National Customs Agency of Mexico (ANAM) has established contacts with the institutions responsible for promoting gender equality in all its Federal Institutions, collaborating with the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES), the National Human Rights Commission (CNDH), and the National Council to Prevent Discrimination (CONAPRED), specialists in this field, to implement training courses to mainstream the Gender Perspective in the workplace. In the 2024 Annual Training Plan, ANAM delivers the following courses for all personnel:
  - Human Rights from a Gender Perspective
  - The ABC of equality and nondiscrimination
  - Gender equality
  - Gender Equality in the Federal Public Administration
  - Human Rights and Proper Workplace Practices (*Buen trato laboral*)
  - Inclusive and non-sexist communication

In addition, INMUJERES is the federal government entity that coordinates implementation of

national policy in the area of substantive gender equality as well as contributing to the eradication of violence against women.

**Priority Action 1.7:** Enhance the capacity of national and regional forensic laboratories or similar investigation entities to analyze and identify chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and facilitate information sharing with global repositories and across governmental counterparts.

Mexico has the following institutions in charge of, and with the capacity to, analyze chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS):

- The Attorney General's Office (*Fiscalía General de la República - FGR*), through the National Office for Coordinating Expert Services
- National Customs Agency of Mexico
- General Scientific Directorate of the National Guard (Subdirectorato de Laboratorios)
- Functions of the COFEPRIS

For the analysis of pharmaceutical products and some chemical precursors regulated by COFEPRIS, the National Reference Laboratory of the Analytical Control and Coverage Expansion Commission, which has highly qualified personnel to issue reliable and timely analytical results and technical documents, which serve as technical and scientific evidence in regulatory matters for COFEPRIS decision making. The National Reference Laboratory works using universally recognized standards that make it possible to demonstrate that the results are technically reliable for use in other countries.

In addition, the Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR) has a pharmacology and toxicology laboratory to carry out the corresponding analysis of substances of illicit origin, which will help that institution fulfill its security responsibilities.

The country has, and participates in, ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS:

- Training Program on Safe Handling of Synthetic Drugs, their Precursors, and Derivatives. CFIC and the Office for General Coordination of Expert Services
- Videoconference Workshop on Counternarcotics, given by the Technical Sub-Commission on Counternarcotics (SCTAN), Commission of Police Chiefs and Directors of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Colombia

Mexico has mechanisms to facilitate and share information on the subject at the national level

among government counterparts, as well as global repositories on chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS:

- At the national level, this is done through the National Effort Coordination Group, which taps the official country data used to answer the international questionnaires with United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) through the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) questionnaires
- Technical Group for Synthetic Drug Control
- State Coordination Workshops for the Construction of Peace and Security
- Through the High-Level Security Groups (GANSEG), in which Federal Government agencies and their counterparts in the country participate

**Priority Action 1.9:** Enhance coordination with private sector entities to prevent diversion of chemical substances and precursors and deny criminals access to the materials, platforms, and services of the licit supply chain, which are exploited by criminal organizations for the illicit manufacture, sale, and trafficking of drugs.

Mexico has information exchange partnerships with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services that are exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes, through the following activities:

- Meetings with chemical industry representatives to exchange information on the subject
- SEMAR participates in state security roundtables, where the private sector is represented and describes the issues it faces, as well as listening to and addressing public complaints
- On January 7, 2020, the first phase of the Postal Service Parcel Inspection and Surveillance Strategy began, with permanent inspection by dogs to detect currency, drugs, firearms, and explosives at the Mexican Postal Service (SEPOMEX)-Pantaco Operational Center. In a second stage, on January 13, 2020, the aim was to extend the control to national and transnational parcel companies
- On January 14, 2020, representatives of the Secretariat of Security and Citizen Protection (SSPC) met with the National Chamber of Passenger Transportation and Tourism to agree on issues related to the Strategic Territorial Plan in Bus Centers, consisting of permanent inspections in the Bus Centers of the Metropolitan Area to detect currency, drugs, firearms, and explosives

Furthermore, on April 3, 2024, during the 67th Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), Mexico presented the National Strategy for the regulation of chemical precursors, in conjunction with security institutions such as the SEMAR; among the components, the Comprehensive Substance System (SISUS) platform stood out, an innovation platform that digitally allows the registration, control and authorizations of regulated substances.

On the other hand, simultaneously, the event “35 years after the adoption of the 1988

Convention: challenges and solutions to address the illicit manufacture of drugs” was held, in which, through the health authority, topics of industrial cooperation, the Internet and new technologies, equipment used for the illicit manufacture of drugs; and national approaches to the regulation of precursors and equipment were discussed, in order to counteract the problem. This event was carried out with the participation of the private sector.

The country uses tools and resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemical substances. Thus:

- Use is made of the tools provided by the INCB, such as the "Voluntary Industry Cooperation and Public-Private Partnership Project"
- Collaboration Agreement between COFEPRIS and the Chemical Industry to reinforce the control of four chemical substances widely used by the legal industry, in order to regulate them and prevent health risks and avoid their diversion to the illegal market; remains in force
- Through legal implementation such as the Dual-Use Substances Watch List
- Dissemination of INCB communiqués or alerts to the private sector through the COFEPRIS-CAS-DEREPSQ-A-86-2024 memorandum and the COFEPRIS digital platform communiqué

## OBJECTIVE

2

**STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES POSED BY NPS AND ILLICIT SYNTHETIC DRUGS, AND THE THREAT OF FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES, NON-MEDICAL SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS, AND ILLICIT AMPHETAMINE DERIVATIVES.**

**Priority Action 2.3:** Design and implement, when appropriate, national regulatory tools to address the challenges posed by NPS and national controls on emerging illicit synthetic drugs and their precursor chemicals.

Mexico has the following regulatory frameworks and guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by NPS and emerging illicit synthetic drugs:

- General Law of Health and the Watch List of Non-regulated Chemical Substances that can be used to manufacture synthetic drugs
- Federal Law for the Control of Chemical Precursors, Essential Chemicals, and Machines for Manufacturing Capsules, Tablets and/or Pills
- International agreements - memorandums of understanding (functions of the SRE)
- Agreement CSG CCC 4/15.04.2021 and the Agreement that amends it approve the implementation of the surveillance list of dual-use substances as a monitoring mechanism, run by the General Health Council; the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Finance and Public Credit, Economy, Health, Navy, as well as Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation, and the FGR in accordance with their constitutional and legal powers

### OBJECTIVE

3

**STRENGTHEN OR DEVELOP LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR THE EFFECTIVE MONITORING AND CONTROL OF ESSENTIAL CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND PRECURSORS TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF THESE SUBSTANCES TO THE MANUFACTURING OF ILICIT DRUGS AND COUNTER TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING PERIODICALLY UPDATING NATIONAL LISTS OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.**

**Priority Action 3.4:** Strengthen or develop appropriate domestic controls over precursors including measures to control the international trade in precursor chemicals and other controlled chemical substances, consistent with the framework established in the United Nations Drug Conventions, and law enforcement measures.

Mexico has adopted the following control measures contained in Article 12, Paragraph 8 of the 1988 United Nations Convention:

Control measures	Yes	No
Control all persons and companies engaged in the manufacture or distribution of controlled chemical substances	X	
Control, under license, the establishment and premises where the aforementioned manufacture or distribution is carried out	X	
Require licensees to obtain authorization for the manufacture or distribution of controlled chemical substances	X	
Prevent the accumulation by manufacturers and distributors of quantities of such substances in excess of those required for the normal conduct of business and prevailing market conditions	X	

The country has adopted the following control measures contained in Article 12, Paragraph 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention:

Control measures	Yes	No
A system for monitoring international trade in controlled chemical substances to facilitate the detection of suspicious transactions	X	
The surveillance system should be implemented in close cooperation with manufacturers, importers, exporters, wholesalers, and retailers, who should report suspicious orders and transactions to the competent authorities	X	
Order the seizure of any controlled substance if there is sufficient evidence that it is to be used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances	X	
Notify the authorities and competent bodies, as soon as possible, if there is any reason to believe that the import, export, or transit of a substance is intended for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, providing, in particular, information on the means of payment and any other essential elements on which this presumption is based	X	
Require imports and exports to be properly labeled and documented. Commercial documents such as invoices, cargo manifests, customs, transport, and other documents relating to the shipment should contain the names of the substances being imported or exported, the quantity imported or exported and the name and address of the importer, exporter, and where possible, the consignee. These documents must be kept for at least two years and may be inspected by the competent authorities	X	

Mexico requests the information contained in Article 12, Paragraph 10 of the 1988 United Nations Convention.

The country has prior analysis of foreign trade operations as an additional domestic measure for the control of precursor chemicals.

**OBJECTIVE  
5**

**ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND/OR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, AND THOSE CONTAINING PRECURSOR SUBSTANCES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.**

**Priority Action 5.2:** Update existing and other regulations and control measures to prevent diversion of pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances.

Mexico has the following penalties for infringements or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances:

Type of penalty	Year of the most recent update
Criminal	2023
Civil	2022
Administrative	2022

**OBJECTIVE  
10**

**DESIGN, IMPLEMENT OR STRENGTHEN LONG-TERM ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING RURAL AND URBAN ALTERNATIVES, COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND, AS APPROPRIATE, PREVENTIVE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, AS APPROPRIATE, WHILE RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**Priority Action 10.5:** Strengthen state presence in areas affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, consistent with the circumstances of each member state.

Comprehensive and sustainable alternative development and preventive alternative development programs are supplemented by public policies to strengthen the presence of the State in areas affected by illicit crops. They are implemented by the following institutions:

Institutions that implement policies supplementing the alternative development programs in affected areas	Yes	No
Ministry of Agriculture	X	

Institutions that implement policies supplementing the alternative development programs in affected areas	Yes	No
Agricultural Research Institute		X
Education Ministry	X	
Health Ministry	X	
Ministry of the Interior/National Police (law enforcement)	X	
Ministry of National Security/Defense	X	
Ministry of Transport/ Public Works	X	
Ministry of Women/Family		X
(Ministry of International Trade)		X
Public Prosecutors' Office	X	
Ministry of Labor/Social Affairs	X	
National Drug Authority	X	
Others: Municipalities affected by illicit crop cultivation (Guerrero, Durango, Sinaloa, and Chihuahua)	X	

## RESEARCH, INFORMATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION

### OBJECTIVE 1

ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES ON DRUGS, OR SIMILAR TECHNICAL OFFICES, STRENGTHENING NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS, AND FOSTER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO GENERATE, COLLECT, ORGANIZE, ANALYZE, AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED DRUG POLICIES AND STRATEGIES.

**Priority Action 1.2:** Strengthen ties to academic and research institutions, as well as specialized non-governmental organizations, to foster scientific research and studies on the various aspects of the drug phenomenon.

Mexico has established and maintained working relationships with academic and research institutions. Thus, there are ties with the National Council of Science and Technology (CONAHCYT), which is the Mexican government institution responsible for establishing public policies on humanities, science, technology, and innovation throughout the country. There have also been ties with the Institutes of Health, such as the National Institute of Public Health and the National Institute of Psychiatry. Likewise, in 2023, the Juvenile Integration Centers, A.C. (*Centros de Integración Juvenil, A.C. - CIJ*) performed research in collaboration with the following entities: Universidad Veracruzana, National Institute of Genomic Medicine (*Instituto Nacional de Medicina Genómica*), and Ministry of Security and Citizen Protection. Decentralized Agency responsible for Prevention and Social Rehabilitation and the Ramón de la Fuente Muñiz National Institute of Psychiatry. Mexico also collaborated with the Boston Children's Hospital.

The country works together with these academic and research institutions to exchange experiences, best practices, and publications, and to transfer technology in the areas of drug demand reduction, public health promotion, and social welfare.



In this sense, the Health Sector relies on the CONAHCYT and the National Institute of Public Health for the development of open innovation projects with social impact in the country, adding capabilities, resources and infrastructure to act in a coordinated manner in the execution of research projects, in the training of human talent, in networking and in the dissemination of knowledge through calls and inclusive programs to address national priority problems or studies on the prevalence of consumption of drugs in the entities of the country, as is the case of the “Report on the situation of drug consumption in Mexico and its comprehensive attention 2019”, which refers to the general situation of drug consumption in Mexico and describes the actions that are implemented in supply control and demand reduction; the professional practices carried out by social service practitioners from the National Autonomous University of Mexico or the National Institute of Criminal Sciences in the areas of information; the inter-institutional meeting programs on mental health and addictions of the Ministry of Health and the Agreement DOF-13-04-2022 by which the Ministry of Health, through the Federal Commission for the Protection against Health Risks (COFEPRIS), resumes the powers of control and health promotion regarding chemical precursors, essential chemicals and medicines that are or contain narcotics.

Mexico has carried out studies on the drug problem through academic and research institutions. Thus, the various agencies have partnerships with universities, specialized research centers, non-governmental organizations (NGO), and other academic and research institutions to gather information that can be analyzed to generate scientific knowledge. The CIJ have a research program covering five areas: epidemiological, evaluative, clinical, psychosocial, and support for program planning. In 2023, it generated 20 products:

- Nine final research reports (internal distribution documents)
- Seven scientific articles submitted for publication (manuscripts for review [*manuscriptos en dictamen*]).
- Two technical reports
- Two issues of the International Journal of Addiction Research (IJAR)

**Priority Action 1.3: Develop and adopt quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries.**

Mexico has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries. Accordingly, quantitative methodologies are applied through national surveys to estimate the prevalence of consumption. Data collection is done by gathering information on substance users in treatment centers, emergency, hospital discharges, and mortality related to substance use.

The country has also conducted drug use surveys applying a national methodology harmonized with the Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC). In that sense, the National Addictions Surveys have used harmonized methodologies.



Likewise, Mexico has utilized the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission - CICAD's standardized indicators for drug information networks for the collection, analysis, and reporting of national drug-related information.

In 2023, Mexico conducted studies using methods that are non-representative of the population or qualitative methodologies to obtain information on drugs that can be shared with other countries that have conducted studies with similar methodologies:

- Epidemiological Information Report on Drug Use (semiannual)
- Predicting utilization of treatment services by users of a self-diagnosis platform: *A Machine Learning Approach*

## OBJECTIVE 2

**EXPAND ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON DRUG USE AND RELATED ISSUES THROUGH THE USE OF SOUND, SYSTEMATIC DATA COLLECTION PRACTICES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGIES, ENSURING THAT COUNTRIES HAVE THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO DEVELOP SOUND DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS AND POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 2.1:** Generate information on the incidence, prevalence, and modes of drug use and health impacts of drug use (e.g. non-fatal overdose, fatal overdose, infectious disease transmission), as well as drug use and health impact trends over time using sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies to monitor use across the general public and in key populations, whenever possible utilizing the Inter-American Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) as the standard methodology for epidemiological surveillance.

Mexico has carried out and published the following demand reduction studies:

Demand Reduction			
Studies	Studies carried out and published		Year of most recent study
	Yes	No	
Survey of secondary school students		X	
National household survey (12-64 years)		X	
Cross-section survey of patients in treatment centers	X		2023
Survey of patients in emergency rooms	X		2021
Survey of university students		X	
Survey of incarcerated individuals		X	
Studies on drug-related mortality		X	
Studies on drug-related morbidity	X		2021
Surveys of other target populations		X	

**Priority Action 2.3:** Evaluate and monitor the impact and the results of treatment and prevention programs using scientific methodologies and make recommendations to update programs based on findings.

Mexico has carried out the following studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs and interventions:

Scope	Are evaluation studies carried out?		Title of the study and assessment year
	Yes	No	
Prevention	X		Evaluation of the prevention program "Development of Competencies with Youth" (2020) Application of R. Lerner's model of socio-emotional competencies with secondary school students (2020) Evaluation of the 2017 - 2020 prevention program "Competency Development with Youth" Outcome evaluation of a hybrid program for the prevention of <i>bullying</i> , addictions, and reluctance to attend school ( <i>desapego escolar</i> ) (2020)
Treatment	X		Evaluation of the 2019 outpatient treatment program (2019) Evaluation of the 2018- 2019 Inpatient Treatment Program Outcome Evaluation of the Day Center Intensive Outpatient Program (2020) Evaluation of distance cognitive-behavioral therapy projects during COVID 19 (2022) Online family therapy in the context of COVID 19 (2022) Evaluation of the Program for Treatment of Substance Users at Odds with the Law (2022) Outpatient Hybrid Treatment Program Outcome Evaluation (2022)

The country has carried out the following process or intermediate outcome evaluations of prevention or treatment programs:

Program evaluated	Title of the evaluation performed	Year of publication of research findings	Year of program evaluation
CRECE (GROW): For positive youth development	Drug use prevention: design and evaluation of an online program for middle and high school students	Final report (document for internal distribution)	2023
-Prevention program with parents	Evaluation of the quality and findings of the prevention program with parents.	Unpublished: Internal distribution reports	2019
-Evaluation of the E025 budget program "Prevention and Handling of Addictions"	Performance Evaluation System		2022

Program evaluated	Title of the evaluation performed	Year of publication of research findings	Year of program evaluation
On-line prevention interventions	Process evaluation of on-line prevention interventions	Unpublished: Internal distribution reports	2021
AMBAR universal prevention program for parents	Evaluation of an on-line universal prevention program for parents	Unpublished: Internal distribution reports	2021
"Socioemocionante" online prevention intervention program	Process evaluation of the "Socioemocionante" online prevention intervention program	Unpublished: Internal distribution reports	2021
Group Psychoeducational Intervention	Process Evaluation of a Psychoeducational Group Intervention	Unpublished: Internal distribution reports	2020
Distance Cognitive-behavioral therapy during COVID-19	Evaluation of distance cognitive-behavioral therapy projects during COVID-19	Unpublished: Internal distribution reports	2020

Mexico has not conducted impact evaluations of its prevention or treatment programs.

The country has a mechanism to continually monitor and evaluate the results of the following programs and services in the public health care and/or social protection network:

Programs/ Services	Mechanisms in place to continuously monitor and evaluate results		Name of the mechanisms
	Yes	No	
Care	X		Matrix of indicators for results of the E025 budget program "Prevention and Handling of Addictions"
Treatment	X		
Rehabilitation	X		
Recovery and social integration	X		

**OBJECTIVE**  
**3**

**EXPAND AND ENHANCE THE COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND RELATED ISSUES, THROUGH THE USE OF SOUND, SYSTEMATIC DATA COLLECTION PRACTICES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGIES.**

**Priority Action 3.1:** Generate information on illicit drug production, trafficking, drug markets, and related issues, using systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and wherever possible applying comparable methodologies.

Mexico has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs. The Secretariat of National Defense (SEDENA), the Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR), the Secretariat of Public Security, the National Guard (GN), and the state prosecutors' offices and delegations participate in these mechanisms, within the framework of the National Effort Coordination Group (*Grupo de Coordinación del Esfuerzo Nacional*).

The country has the following information related to supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes:

Supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
Quantification of illicit crop cultivation including crops grown indoors	X		2023
Number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production	X		2023
Quantities of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production seized	X		2023
Number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors)	X		2023
Quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors)	X		2023
Number of seizures of pharmaceutical products	X		2023
Quantities of seized pharmaceutical products	X		2023
Number of persons formally charged with drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2023
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2023
Number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs detected and dismantled	X		2023
Number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin, detected and dismantled	X		2023
Chemical composition of seized drugs	X		2023
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)	X		2023
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering	X		2023
Number of persons convicted of money laundering	X		2023

Supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
Number of persons formally charged with trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials	X		2023
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials	X		2023
Number of persons formally charged with diversion of chemical substances	X		2023
Number of persons convicted of diversion of chemical substances	X		2023

Mexico carries out the following periodic studies and research on the market for illicit drugs:

Type of study	Title of report	Year of publication
Supply Reduction	Opium poppy crop monitoring in Mexico (2018- 2019)	2021
Supply Reduction	Opium poppy crop monitoring in Mexico (2019- 2020)	2022

The country does not carry out studies on medical and scientific uses and other legal use of narcotics or psychotropic substances subject to international control systems.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### **OBJECTIVE 1**

**PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS TO FOSTER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, IMPROVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES, AND SHARE BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED ON DRUG POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 1.1:** Develop and implement a plan for promoting and strengthening technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs.

Mexico develops and implements a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs. Thus, the country participated actively in the following activities:

- 62nd session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND), which took place in Vienna, Austria, on March 14 -15, 2019
- International Conference entitled International cooperation in aligning drug policies with the

Sustainable Development Goals (*Cooperación Internacional para alinear las políticas en materia de drogas a las Metas de Desarrollo Sostenible*), held in Mexico City, on October 30-31, 2019, (event organized by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (SRE) of Mexico, jointly with the Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking of the Council of Europe - Pompidou Group)

- 84th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group, held in Lisbon, Portugal, on May 27-June 1, 2019. During the meeting, a visit was made to the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)
- Lisbon Conference on Addictions, held in Lisbon, Portugal, on October 23-25, 2019 (at the invitation of the European Union)
- 85th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group, held in Strasbourg, France, on November 20-21, 2019
- 63rd Session of the CND, held in Vienna, Austria, March 2-6, 2020
- XXII High Level Meeting of the CELAC-EU Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (MCCMD), held in Zagreb, Croatia, on April 2-3, 2020 (Mexico participated in its capacity as President of the MCCMD)
- International Seminar entitled "Antidrug policies: prevention of drug phenomena and fight against drug international routes. Cooperation Strategies in the fight against drug trafficking", held in Italy, on February 20-21, 2020
- 86th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group held in Strasbourg, France, on June 3, 2020
- 87th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group held in Strasbourg, France, on November 19, 2020
- 64th Regular Session of the CND, held in Vienna, Austria, on April 12-16, 2021
- 88th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group held on June 29-30, 2021
- 30th Meeting of the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies (HONLEA), Latin America and the Caribbean, held on September 24, 2021
- 89th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group, held on October 27, 2021
- 65th Session of the CND, held in Vienna, Austria, on March 14-18, 2022
- 90th Meeting of Permanent Correspondents of the Pompidou Group held on May 17, 2022
- 31st Meeting of HONLEA Latin America and the Caribbean (HONLAC), held in Guatemala City, on October 3-7, 2022
- 91st Permanent Correspondents Meeting and 18th Ministerial Meeting of the Pompidou Group, held in Lisbon, Portugal, on December 13-14, 2022

Within the framework of international police cooperation through the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Federal Ministerial Police (PFM), through the International Police Affairs Unit and INTERPOL (UAPII), in its capacity as the INTERPOL Mexico National Central Bureau, exchanges police information with INTERPOL member countries (196 countries) and coordinates security and law enforcement agencies for Mexico's participation in international police operations of the INTERPOL General Secretariat and the INTERPOL Regional Bureau for Central America based in San Salvador, El Salvador (ORSAN), to which Mexico is attached. It is worth mentioning the participation in 2023 in Operation DIAMOND VIII against drug trafficking,

in which the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (FGR) and the National Guard were involved.

Additionally, the Criminal Investigation Agency (AIC), through its Investigation Units and coordinated by the PFM's UAPII, participates in the regional police cooperation mechanism called: Commission of Police Chiefs and Directors of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Colombia, to which AIC has belonged since 2019 and which is made up of 15 police forces from the region that meet according to an Operational Plan and a Strategic Plan.

The Commission maintains a strategic alliance with INTERPOL, through ORSAN, and currently has twelve (12) Technical Sub-Commissions, including the Anti-Narcotics Technical Sub-Commission. In compliance with the 2023 Annual Work Plan, it meets periodically with all the chiefs and heads of police units responsible for combating drug trafficking to exchange information on cases, best practices, and experiences.

In 2023, meetings were held as part of the Operational Plan to follow up on Operation Diamond VIII, in which positive results were obtained.

The country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence on drug interdiction and control through the FGR. In this regard, there are various effective mechanisms for the exchange of intelligence between the FGR and its counterparts in other countries through secure or encrypted e-mails, as well as through the appointment of public servants as liaisons or points of contact, these being secure channels. The FGR mainly uses the following information exchange channels, for the following specific purposes:

- North American Drug Policy Dialogue (NADD), in order for Mexico, Canada, and the United States to promote the exchange of information on trends in the illegal drug market and to take steps to restrict the transfer of illicit substances in the region
- Project entitled "Scientific Community Information Exchange for Narcotic Chemical Emergencies (SCIENCE)", within the framework of the NADD. This is a forum for the confidential exchange of intelligence information for the exclusive use of its members. Members - law enforcement authorities, scientists, toxicologists, forensic scientists, and other professionals from each country - share information derived from forensic laboratory results in order to maintain a communication mechanism to discuss the latest trends in drug trafficking, concealment techniques, and new detection techniques, as well as the emergence of newer or re-emerging drugs that are trafficked, consumed, or reported in toxicological examinations and/or autopsies
- Network of Anti-Drug Prosecutors of Ibero-America (RFAI) of the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors (AIAMP), with the aim of promoting the exchange of information related to investigations with a transnational component, as well as to identify best practices and share information about any phenomenon related to drug trafficking, new routes, methodology of substance trafficking, or new substances used in drug trafficking. This forum includes intelligence information that, due to its sensitive nature, cannot be disclosed and cannot be used in litigation (*judicializada*)

Through the regional police cooperation mechanism called: Commission of Chiefs and Directors of Police of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and Colombia, the Criminal Investigation Agency, through its Administrative Units, participates in the Technical Intelligence Subcommission. Within the framework of the Subcommission, a network of contacts was created for the exchange of information in real time and as a support the use of the INTERPOL Communication System (I-24/7 System).

Mexico promotes the exchange with member states and with States outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with international and regional organizations, of best practices in training, specialization, and professional development of staff in responsible for implementing its national drug policies and strategies. Thus, in relation to the information exchange referred to above, in the period from January 1, 2019 to January 31, 2023, the country participated in various training sessions, conferences, seminars, and summits, such as:

- **2019**

- The **36th International Drug Control Conference (IDEC)** was held on April 11-19 in Baku, Republic of Azerbaijan, to exchange information on the use of existing innovative methods in the fight against illicit drug trafficking.
- **"Desert Snow" training workshop** held in Summersville, West Virginia, United States, on April 23-27, which addressed issues related to combating the opioid epidemic, as well as indicators of criminal activity and identification methods (detection of suspicious behavior)
- **Third Exchange of Experts on the Handling of Hazardous Materials including Fentanyl** held in Monterrey, Nuevo Leon, Mexico, on June 5-6, with the purpose of learning about the handling of hazardous materials such as fentanyl
- **24th Multilateral Maritime Counterdrug Summit** held in Alexandria, Virginia, United States, on June 18-19, to address presentations on the prosecution of investigation files, drug seizures, and arrests in maritime interdictions
- **HITS Seminar** held in Chicago, Illinois, United States, on August 13-17, which addressed issues related to canine units for drug detection
- **Canine Instructor Course**, which was held in Orlando, Florida, United States, on October 13-December 7, in order for participants to obtain certification and accreditation by the National Association of Narcotics Detection Dogs based in the United States
- **International maritime workshop** held in Costa Rica, on October 28-31, to strengthen and maintain the dialogue between maritime and justice authorities on issues related to illicit drug trafficking from South America to Mexico
- **Course on "Control of Drug Offences"** held in Japan, August 25-September 11, with a view to exchanging experiences and best practices on the drug problem and strengthening investigative and police capacities to address this problem

- **2022**

- **Seminar "Sources and Routes of Methamphetamine and Synthetic Drugs in the South Pacific"** held in Los Angeles, California, United States, on May 11-13, to bring together representatives from Central America, North America, the South Pacific, and France,



derived from the flow of narcotics between those regions, and to identify areas of technical and operational cooperation

- **Basic Course on Clandestine and Level "A" High Risk Laboratories (High Risks of Fentanyl)**, held from July 31 to August 13, in Los Angeles, California, United States, to provide basic training for seizing clandestine laboratories, as well as the use of special suits for high-risk clandestine laboratories
- **Basic Course on Clandestine and Level "A" High Risk Laboratories (High Risks of Fentanyl)**, from October 30 to November 12, in Los Angeles, California, United States, to provide basic training for the seizing of clandestine laboratories, as well as the use of special suits for high-risk clandestine laboratories
- **2023**
  - **Basic Course on Clandestine and Level "A" High Risk Laboratories (High Risks of Fentanyl)**, from April 17 to 28, in Los Angeles, California, United States, to provide basic training for seizing clandestine laboratories, as well as the use of special suits for high-risk clandestine laboratories.
  - **Basic Course on Clandestine and Level "A" High Risk Laboratories (High Risks of Fentanyl)**, from May 1 to 12, in Los Angeles, California, United States, to provide basic training for seizing clandestine laboratories, as well as the use of special suits for high-risk clandestine laboratories.
  - **Basic course for canine handlers in narcotics, weapons, and paper money detection**, held from September 11 to October 6 in Florida, United States, with the purpose of using canine binomials, learning how to handle the canine, and identify signals when detecting drugs, weapons, or paper money.
  - **Workshops I and II on Health Crime Investigations (Fentanyl)**, held on October 23 and 24 and December 4 and 5, in Baja California and Sonora, with a view to acquiring knowledge, skills, and tools for conducting criminal investigations of fentanyl, from the basics to the differences between fentanyl and other synthetic drugs.
  - Within the framework of the **Commission of Police Chiefs and Directors of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and Colombia**, the Federal Ministerial Police, through the International Police Affairs Unit and INTERPOL, coordinated with ORSAN the realization of an Anti-Narcotics Workshop called: Training Workshop on Synthetic Drugs, from November 21 to 22, 2023, in virtual mode, in which the speakers were agents of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office attached to the Specialized Prosecutor's Office for Organized Crime (FEMDO) and experts from the Federal Forensic Expert Center, both part of the Office of the Attorney General (FGR), on the trafficking of fentanyl and methamphetamine and their chemical compositions. The workshop was attended by members of the 15 police forces that make up the Commission and 16 certificates were awarded to speakers and participants from Mexico.

In the specific case of the National Commission against Addictions (CONADIC), the Council serves as the national focal point for the Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drug Policy (COPOLAD), with which it has been carrying out activities to comply with COPOLAD's work program, in accordance with Mexico's specific needs for

strengthening the Mexican Observatory on Mental Health and Drug Use (OMSMCD), the National Addiction Prevention Strategy "Together for Peace", and to provide support for the preparation of a study on trends in the consumption of opioids in Mexico using the methodology of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA), in addition to the participation of Mexican experts in the regional face-to-face and online meetings promoted by COPOLAD. As regards of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), the Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID) serves as implementer of the Project for the Strengthening of the Mexican Observatory on Mental Health and Drug Use, between the Secretariat of Health of Mexico and the of American States (OAS). CICAD has also provided support for Mexican experts to participate in activities organized by this agency. With the POMPIDOU Group, Mexican experts have been participating, *inter alia*, in meetings and in projects such as "children whose parents use drugs", as well as in the study of books on the subject.

At the bilateral level, the Bicentennial Understanding on Security, Public Health, and Safe Communities was established between Mexico and the United States, as a comprehensive framework to guide binational actions in the pursuit of security, health, and development for our societies. This Framework incorporates each country's security priorities, with an emphasis on addressing violence through a justice- and intelligence-driven response to organized crime and based on effective law enforcement cooperation. It also includes a public health and development approach as part of a comprehensive cooperation strategy between the two countries, for a safer and more prosperous region.

This Framework points to cooperation by the U.S. Government in managing the following projects: Strengthening of the Mexican Observatory of Mental Health and Consumption of Psychoactive Substances (Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) - CICAD); Policy Makers Training (INL-United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - UNODC), and the Community Coalitions and Addiction Counselors projects. Binational panels of experts on substance use are held periodically by CONADIC and the Health Attaché's Office of the U.S. Embassy in Mexico.

Likewise, cooperation with the United Kingdom has been consolidated through technical exchanges between experts from that country and Mexico in the areas of mental health and substance abuse.

A high-level health dialogue has been established with the Kingdom of Denmark, with face-to-face meetings in both countries resulting in a bilateral program to be developed in 2023.

With Colombia, a Technical Exchange Group has been established with the Ministry of Health, which will address, among other issues, mental health and substance use and reforms of the health system.

At the multilateral level, Mexico participates with the United States and Canada in the NADD, aimed at improving trilateral coordination and convening annual meetings in each country to exchange information on trends in the consumption of psychoactive substances, including the

use of opioids, and to discuss each country's approach to addressing the consumption problem, as well as their public health perspectives.

Mexico also participates in the various regional drug forums. In the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, Mexico participates in each session as a speaker in both the general debate and in matters relating to compliance with the 2019 Action Plan to Counter the Drug Phenomenon. In CICAD, CONADIC participated in its sessions, generally as head of the Mexican Delegation and in 2021 it served as Vice-Chair of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction and in 2022 as its Chair. In addition, Mexico has contributed information requested by both the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) and UNODC for the preparation of their respective reports.

The country participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others. Thus, the PFM, through the UAPII, carries out institutional and inter-agency coordination through participation in INTERPOL Projects and Operations at the international and regional level. These are carried out by the General Secretariat of that International Organization, with the UAPII, in its capacity as the INTERPOL National Central Bureau in Mexico, acting as the liaison and National Coordinator to ensure the participation of the country's Federal and State institutions.

Particularly noteworthy are Operation THUNDER 2023 against crimes affecting the environment, coordinated by the PFM with the Secretariat of the Navy (SEMAR), Customs, and the Federal Prosecutor's Office for Environmental Protection (PROFEPA); Operation TURQUESA V to combat the smuggling of migrants, human trafficking, and other related crimes, coordinated by the UAPII in conjunction with the National Institute on Migration (INM), the National Guard, and units of the FGR; and Operation TRIGGER IX against Arms Trafficking, with the participation of the Criminal Investigation Agency.

In addition, Mexico participates in connection with the Commission of Police Chiefs and Directors of Police of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Colombia in the technical subcommittees: 1) against Arms Trafficking, 2) against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants, 3) Intelligence, and 4) against Cybercrime, where information is exchanged and problems, good practices, and experiences are presented.

Through the Directorate of Liaison and International Police Cooperation, a Purple Notice issued by the INTERPOL General Secretariat was circulated regarding the modus operandi of arms trafficking by postal mail, to the Federal Criminal Intelligence Center (CFIC), FEMDO, and PFM in the FGR.

In Mexico, there are bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to illicit drug trafficking and related crimes. Thus, Mexico has entered into bilateral cooperation agreements with Guatemala, Costa Rica, the United Kingdom, Belize, Canada, Ecuador, Cuba, Bolivia, Peru, Nicaragua, Panama, Uruguay, Brazil, China, the European Community, the Philippines, Paraguay, the Dominican Republic, Italy,

Poland, the Netherlands, as well as with agencies such as Interpol and Europol, among others. These mechanisms are used when requested by the countries or agencies.

**Priority Action 1.3: Promote the dissemination of good practices and exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations.**

Mexico promotes the dissemination of good practices and the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies. Accordingly, the FGR regularly participates in forums in which it exchanges best practices, experiences, and achievements related to the fight against the global drug problem, in line with national legislation, as well as to different international instruments on the subject.

Regarding the period from January 1, 2019 to January 31, 2023, the FGR, through experts in the field, has participated in international face-to-face meetings organized by CICAD/OAS, the INCB, the Pompidou Group, and the CND, which are briefly described below:

- **2019**
  - **North American Drug Policy Dialogue (NADD)** Mexico, Canada, and the United States of America promote the exchange of information and best practices, statistics, drug studies, and training, with the aim of coordinating actions to address this phenomenon in a comprehensive manner in the region
- **2020**
  - **CICAD/OAS Meeting of the Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products**, held in virtual format on October 14. Best practices on the control of precursor chemicals were exchanged
  - **INCB Meeting on the implementation of Article 12 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988**, held on November 11, in which the FGR explained that, in line with Article 12, Mexico has legislation for the control and enforcement of criminal law measures that in turn are included in applicable national instruments, such as the Federal Law on Precursor Chemicals, Essential Chemicals, and Machines to Manufacture Capsules, Tablets, and/or Pills, the General Health Law, and the Federal Criminal Code  
It was also reported that the Mexican government uses the tools provided by the INCB to prevent diversion, as well as to optimize the regulation of new precursors, the identification of the use of non-regulated substances, and international alerts and rapprochement with the chemical industry, in order to improve multisectoral coordination
  - **Virtual Meeting of the INCB Expert Group on Trafficking in Dangerous Substances through Freight Transport Services**, which was held from November 30 to December 11 via videoconference, to exchange best practices and lessons learned regarding the response to the increase in cases of trafficking in controlled substances through transport and parcel services
  - **13th Meeting of the Precursors Network of the Pompidou Group**, held on December 17 in virtual format, which promoted the exchange of best practices on the reduction of illicit

drug trafficking, the prevention of pre-precursor abuse, new trends and risk assessment, improved control and risk management and profiling

- **2021**

- **36th Meeting of the Airport Group of the Pompidou Group**, held on June 15 via videoconference, provided a forum for dialogue on challenges and operational practices related to the development of tools and systems to improve drug detection
- **INCB 4th Expert Group Meeting on Trafficking in Dangerous Synthetic Opioids, Fentanyl, and Precursors by mail, express mail, courier services, and air cargo**, which took place from August 30 to September 3, where national experts shared their experiences of law enforcement in connection with the current situation of trafficking of non-controlled substances by mail, courier services, and cargo
- **2nd INCB Expert Meeting on Substances Related to Fentanyl and Dangerous Emerging Synthetic Opioids with No Known Legitimate Use**, held on September 7-9, via videoconference, within the framework of the Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme and the Operational Partnerships to Interdict Opioids' Illicit Distribution and Sales (OPIOIDS) Project to exchange lessons learned on the use and improvement of the list of fentanyl and related substances for recognized non-medical and non-industrial purposes
- **INCB Expert meeting on national practices related to cooperation activities with the chemical industry for the identification of precursors and non-scheduled chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of drugs**, which was held in virtual format on December 2, to share best practices and experiences on new trends, detection, and investigative measures, in order to promote dialogue to strengthen actions to reduce illicit drug trafficking
- **Side event on the Project "Illicit Crop Monitoring System in the Mexican Territory-MEXK54"** held in a virtual format within the framework of the 64th Regular Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, to share best practice information regarding the achievements of the project and its progress in generating evidence and scientific data for a better understanding of trends in poppy planting and production
- Several successful experiences and good practices were also presented in connection with the activities of the OMSMCD in relation to the projects carried out in collaboration with the OID and COPOLAD

- **2023**

- **66th Regular Session of the CND**, which was held from March 13-17, 2023, in a hybrid (virtual and face-to-face) format, based in Vienna, Austria, which addressed progress in the implementation of all international drug policy commitments reflected in the 2019 Ministerial Declaration, including the operational recommendations emanating from the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016)
- **Synthetic Drugs Conference with a focus on Methamphetamine and Fentanyl**, organized by the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, held on March 29 and 30, 2023, in Mexico City, where experiences and best practices on synthetic routes, new precursors, and relevant issues in the production of methamphetamine and fentanyl in Mexico and the U.S. were exchanged

- **Technical Chemical Exchange Conference, focusing on synthetic drugs and precursor chemicals, particularly Methamphetamine and Fentanyl**, organized by the U.S. Embassy in Mexico, held on July 13 and 14, 2023, in Mexico City, in order to exchange experiences and best practices on new trends and synthetic routes, observations on the production of synthetic drugs, as well as seizures of methamphetamine and fentanyl in Mexico and the USA
- **Fourth Regional Meeting of Prosecutors of Drug Trafficking**, held from September 4 to 8, 2023, in La Antigua Guatemala, Republic of Guatemala, with the purpose of exchanging strategies used by different countries to combat the criminal phenomenon of drug trafficking, forms of transit used by criminal organizations, updating communication channels, and strengthening joint actions for international cooperation
- **Meeting of RFAI in conjunction with the European Union Agency specializing in police and judicial cooperation in criminal matters (Eurojust)** and the European Union Agency for Police Cooperation (Europol), held on September 13 and 14, 2023, in the City of The Hague in the Netherlands, with the objective of strengthening cooperation between the points of contact and bringing the RFAI closer to other groups such as Europol and Eurojust, with the aim of dismantling High Impact Criminal Networks, through more expeditious international cooperation between Latin America and the European Union
- **3rd Meeting of the INCB Expert Group on the extension of the list of dangerous substances without legitimate use and new approaches to the identification of counterfeit or illicitly manufactured pharmaceutical products**, which took place from September 18 to 22, 2023, in Vienna, Austria, during which experiences were exchanged on the revision and extension of the use of the lists of substances related to fentanyl that have no registration for medical or industrial use
- **1st International Meeting on Management and Final Disposal of Drugs and Precursor Chemicals and Dismantling of Clandestine Laboratories, UNODC**, held on September 19-22, 2023, in Quito, Ecuador, where experiences were shared on efforts to combat the illicit manufacture of fentanyl in Mexico
- **31st Meeting of HONLEA Latin America and the Caribbean**, held in Quito, Ecuador from October 3 to 6, 2023, which addressed issues related to cooperation in drug crop reduction and measures against the illicit manufacture and diversion of precursors
- **Best Practices Exchange Conference with a focus on Synthetic Drugs and Precursor Chemicals**, organized by the US Embassy in Mexico, held on December 6, in Mexico City, with the purpose of exchanging experiences and best practices on new processes, trends, and synthesis routes of synthetic drugs and precursor chemicals
- **Meeting of RFAI in conjunction with COPOLAD**, held from December 11 to 14, 2023, where strategies used by different countries were exchanged in order to move forward with the project to develop the protocol for undercover agents in anti-drug operations, with the aim of updating communication channels, and strengthening joint actions for international cooperation
- **Annual meeting of points of contact of RFAI**, held on December 12, 2023 in Valencia, Spain, at which the recent work of the Network of Anti-Drug Prosecutors was reviewed and new actions were proposed to continue strengthening transnational investigations in the fight against drugs



**OBJECTIVE**  
**2**

**STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS DEFINED IN THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, MAINTAINING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**Priority Action 2.1: Strengthen regional and international cooperation by competent authorities to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses.**

The competent authorities of Mexico carry out cooperation activities at the regional and international level to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. In this regard, the PFM, through the Unit of International Police Affairs and INTERPOL, publishes red, blue, and purple notices, including the publication of the purple notice with Control Number P-1046/11-2020, regarding the use of the chemical precursor 4 Piperidone Monohydrate Hydrochloride in the production of fentanyl, showing the synthetic route (*ilustrándose la ruta de síntesis*), in order to alert countries to the illicit use of the aforementioned substance, which is licitly used in chemistry for organic synthesis of medicines.

The National Central Office (OCN), in collaboration with the INTERPOL General Secretariat, through the Regional Bureau for Central America based in San Salvador, El Salvador, coordinated national participation in Regional Operations against drug trafficking such as DIAMOND V (2020), DIAMOND VI (2021), DIAMOND VII (2022), and DIAMOND VIII (2023).

In addition, constant communication is maintained with the INTERPOL General Secretariat for the exchange of information on relevant drug seizures in national territory, confirming the event as well as sharing further details in order to contribute to the INTERPOL Drug Analysis File, which includes police information and information from international organizations, civil society, and open sources, in order to identify possible links between criminal organizations and make informed decisions.

Also exchanged with the INTERPOL General Secretariat is information derived from the RELIEF database, which stores information on drug trademarks. Information is forwarded or received to see if the same device has been used to compress another drug package seized, in a different case, somewhere in the world. RELIEF also contains information on tablet logos and the chemical composition of different drugs.

The country takes human rights into account when carrying out these activities through the Mexican legal system. It is the obligation of all public servants to respect the human rights set forth in Article 1, third paragraph of the Political Constitution of the United Mexican States (CPEUM).

In the quest for justice and in accordance with the powers of the Attorney General's Office (FGR), respect for human rights is one of the principles on which the Federal Ministerial Police (PFM) bases its actions, as established in Article 4 of the Law of the Attorney General's Office (LFGR).

Likewise, Article 47, Section I of the LFGR states that it is the obligation of public servants of the

FGR to always conduct themselves in accordance with the law and respect for human rights.

Also, on May 23, 2022, Agreement A/OIC/002/2022 was published in the Official Gazette of the Federation (DOF), which issued the "Code of Ethics for Public Servants of the Attorney General's Office and the Rules of Integrity for the Prosecution of Justice", Article 7, paragraph i) of which stipulates that respect for human rights is one of the obligations of all public servants in the FGR.

The personnel of the PFM, as a law enforcement institution, when carrying out their duties, must ensure compliance and respect for the human rights of detainees, as well as compliance with established procedures and protocols for action, considering that such persons and the settings in which they are located are especially vulnerable to rights violations.

**Priority Action 2.2:** Strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses.

Mexico conducts activities to strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and referral of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses. Thus, the FGR participates in regional and international forums and activities to collaborate with the strengthening of cooperation in mutual legal assistance, in line with the commitments assumed in a number of international instruments, such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Palermo Convention). In this context, the country took part in the 11th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the Palermo Convention, which was held from October 17 to 21, 2022, in Vienna, Austria. At that meeting, Mexico reiterated its commitment to continue implementing the Palermo Convention, underlining that legal assistance has been provided to different countries such as Andorra, Austria, Italy, Japan, and Romania. It also urged States Parties to this Convention to invoke this instrument as a legal basis for signing bilateral agreements to improve and streamline legal assistance and extradition processes.

In addition, the PFM, through the UAPII, maintains a constant exchange of information for police investigations with INTERPOL member countries. In addition, Mexico has signed several bilateral mechanisms on public security, legal assistance in criminal matters, extradition, enforcement of criminal convictions, organized crime, drug trafficking, and prevention of tax evasion. Mexico also has a National Code of Criminal Procedures (CNPP) that includes a special section on international legal assistance in criminal matters, and the International Extradition Law (LEI) for the processing and expediting of extradition requests from other States.

The country has signed several international treaties to combat drug trafficking and related crimes, such as the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air, and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,



which complement the Palermo Convention. In addition, Mexico has signed extradition agreements for crimes involving illicit drug trafficking and related crimes with the following countries: Belgium, Belize, Canada, El Salvador, France, Guatemala, India, Venezuela, Ecuador, Greece, Uruguay, Australia, Argentina, Bolivia, Republic of Korea, Costa Rica, Cuba, Colombia, Nicaragua, Portugal, Peru, Panama, Paraguay, Brazil, United States of America, Costa Rica, Chile, Spain, People's Republic of China, Italy, the United Kingdom, and Ireland. In turn, the Mexican State has signed bilateral extradition treaties with several other countries with an open clause, i.e., they do not contain a catalog of crimes that motivate extradition, so they can be applied to any international extradition request.





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