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MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

Evaluation Report on Drug Policies

COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION

Hemispheric Brief

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

2025

Based on the results
of the 2024 national
evaluation reports



**Executive Secretariat of the
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
2025 HEMISPHERIC BRIEF OF THE
MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)
COMPREHENSIVE EVALUATION
(Based on the results of the 2024 national evaluation reports)**

During 2024, member states¹ of the Organization of American States (OAS) were evaluated by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) in accordance with the updates submitted to the three previous yearly thematic evaluations on their level of compliance with priority actions of all thematic areas outlined in CICAD's Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025.²

The results of this comprehensive evaluation indicate that noteworthy progress has been made at the hemispheric level, with a substantial number of priority actions maintaining or increasing their compliance rate above 50%, including:

Institutional Strengthening

- Collection and use of evidence as a basis for the formulation and updating of national drug policies and strategies.
- Adoption of alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses.

Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Measures (Demand Reduction)

- Creation/implementation of coordination mechanisms with civil society, academic and research institutions, and other stakeholders to support the development and implementation of demand reduction programs.
- Implementation of ongoing competency-based training mechanisms, in collaboration with academic institutions and other specialized organizations.

Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs and to Address Their Causes and Consequences (Supply Reduction)

- Improvement of national capacities to detect and analyze new psychoactive substances (NPS) by making resources and tools available for those responsible in this area.
- Application, in accordance with each country's constitutional principles, of legislative and regulatory measures to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture and management of assets, instruments, or products of illicit drug-related activities.

¹ OAS member states that participated in the 2024 evaluation: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominica (Commonwealth of), Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis (Federation of), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saint Lucia, Suriname, The Bahamas (Commonwealth of), Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America, and Uruguay.

² [http://www.oas.org/fpdb/press/Hemispheric_Plan_of_Action_on_Drugs_2021-2025_ENG-\(1\).pdf](http://www.oas.org/fpdb/press/Hemispheric_Plan_of_Action_on_Drugs_2021-2025_ENG-(1).pdf)

Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation

- Fostering and dissemination of best practices and the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.
- Development of drug treatment information systems that record the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes.
- Additionally, a high percentage of countries partially comply with establishing and strengthening national drug information networks to carry out long-term monitoring, while more than half of the countries have established early warning systems. These systems include the use of a broad range of research methods and information sources to develop rapid responses to emerging threats.

International Cooperation

- Promoting the dissemination of good practices and exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations.
- Strengthening of regional and international cooperation by competent authorities to investigate and prosecute criminals on drug-related offenses.

However, national reports³ highlight that additional efforts need to be made in the following areas:

- The highest rate of noncompliance (56%) in Institutional Strengthening relates to the **lack of engagement with the private sector in developing innovative approaches to the implementation of national drug policies or strategies**. Likewise, a high percentage (41%) of countries indicate that there is **no adequate provision of financial and other necessary resources for the implementation of national drug policies and programs**.
- Regarding Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support Measures (Demand Reduction), 52% of countries **have not conducted a situational assessment to identify the training needs of service providers in prevention, early intervention, care, treatment, rehabilitation, recovery, and social integration**. Moreover, 67% **have not conducted an assessment of the needs and supply of primary care, treatment, and reintegration services** at the national, regional, or local levels.
- In the area of Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs and to Address Their Causes and Consequences (Supply Reduction), 72% of countries **have not developed innovative regulatory approaches to enhance national controls on synthetic opioids for non-medical use and NPS**. Also, 63% **have not adopted training measures on ensuring access to substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes**.
- In Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation, 66% of countries **have not established or strengthened forums for researchers to present their findings to the authorities**, and a significant percentage (47%) of countries **do not evaluate or monitor the impact or results of treatment and prevention programs using scientific methodologies to update programs based on these findings**.
- In the area of International Cooperation, 53% of countries **have not enacted national laws or taken administrative actions to more fully implement the obligations established in international conventions related to the world drug problem**.

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³ <https://www.oas.org/ext/en/security/mem/type/1?category=15#7398>



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Organization of American States (OAS)
Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

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