MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

Evaluation Report on Drug Policies: Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences

Saint Lucia

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) | 2022
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SAINT LUCIA

Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:
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EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND

2022
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 carried out based on information provided by the member states’ National Coordinating Entities (NCEs), which is analyzed by the MEM Governmental Expert Group (GEG), composed of experts designated by the countries, who do not participate in their own country’s evaluation, thus ensuring the transparency and impartiality of the process. The GEG is always supported by the group of independent technical consultants and the MEM Unit. The eighth round represents a more rigorous evaluation process, in which countries are requested to provide valid means of verification to support the information submitted and ensure compliance of each priority action.

Specifically, the GEG’s work for the thematic assessment for the area of “Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences” was conducted during 2022, and covers the 2019 to 2022 period (unless otherwise specified). This work was adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic with
the use of technology and virtual tools, as well as taking it into consideration in the evaluation assessments.

Finally, it should be noted that one of the main purposes of MEM evaluation reports is to serve as a useful diagnostic tool to identify opportunities for improvement in drug policies and strategies, both at the national and regional levels.
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.

Priority Action 1.1: Develop or strengthen intelligence and interdiction capabilities to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

Saint Lucia does not implement or participate in ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, or dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs for personnel involved in interdiction operations.

The country does not have protocols or operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs nor include actions that minimize damage to the environment or optimize the management of chemical and hazardous waste.

Priority Action 1.2: Implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming in agencies and organizations in charge of drug control.

The agencies in charge of drug control in Saint Lucia do not implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming.

Priority Action 1.3: Design, implement, and strengthen programs aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction.

Saint Lucia has programs or strategies aimed at land, maritime, and aerial interdiction, through monitoring, inspections, or checkpoints. However, the country does not have programs or strategies aimed at riverine interdiction of drugs.

Priority Action 1.4: Review and update, as appropriate, legal frameworks related to the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques.

Saint Lucia has the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act that provides for the use of controlled deliveries as an investigation tool to prevent and reduce drug trafficking.
**Priority Action 1.5:** Review and/or update mechanisms countries use to monitor the evolution of drug trafficking and related crimes, for the purpose of identifying and responding to new trends and threats.

Saint Lucia does not have updated assessments or studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes.

**Priority Action 1.6:** Define and implement coordinated actions between national and regional entities to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.

Saint Lucia implements actions to identify organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, the Intelligence Unit functions in this area, they gather intelligence and pass it on to the Special Service Unit (SSU) and Drug Unit for operationalizing.

The country carries out inter-institutional collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. Intelligence is shared among the police, Customs and Excise Department, Financial Investigation Authority and Inland Revenue Department and joint operations are conducted to dismantle organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.

Saint Lucia has participated in operations and investigations in cooperation with other countries aimed at dismantling organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, there is inter-institutional collaboration with other agencies especially Customs and Excise, U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and British Intelligence. Mutual Legal Assistance and Treaties are established between countries which allow joint investigations against criminal groups and gangs. Also, intelligence sharing with Martinique.

**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.

Saint Lucia’s Forensic Science Laboratory and the Drug Inspector of the Ministry of Health is responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS).

The country does not have or participates in ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS.

Saint Lucia has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across
relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS. On April 20, 2020, Cabinet approved the formalization of the Drug Information Network (DIN) and the National Drug Observatory (NDO) whose membership include competent governmental agencies and private stakeholder agencies.

Priority Action 1.8: Enhance the capacity of relevant drug control and financial regulatory competent authorities to identify and address new challenges whereby synthetic drugs and their precursors and pharmaceutical products, being illicitly sold online and shipped through land, riverine, maritime, and aerial means.

Saint Lucia has mechanisms to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet. In this sense, the Cyber Crime Strategy is set up to monitor and combat crimes especially via social media with the participation of the Cyber Crime Laboratory and the Intelligence Unit.

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.

Saint Lucia does not have partnerships or information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes.

The country does not use tools or resources of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals.

Priority Action 1.10: Enhance capacities for forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets.

Saint Lucia has national authorities with the appropriate budget, human and material resources, as well as ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets. These attributions are outlined in the Saint Lucia legislation.

The country’s competent personnel receive ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets. In this sense, there is money laundering asset recovery and civil forfeiture proceedings training programs.
**Priority Action 2.1:** Establish and/or strengthen early warning systems (EWS) at the national level to promote collaboration and the exchange of information with other existing regional or international systems.

Saint Lucia does not have 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, nor other substances subject to international control.

**Priority Action 2.2:** Improve domestic capabilities to detect and analyze NPS by making resources and tools available for those responsible in this area.

Saint Lucia improves its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of special investigative techniques, updated equipment, and acquisition of technology. In this sense, laboratory analyses are done to substances submitted by the police. The drug inspector does analysis on substances detained by customs. Also, the use of TruNarc by the police and customs to test substances at the ports of entry, indicating the type of chemicals (cocaine, heroin, LSD etc.) the substance contains.

**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.

Saint Lucia does not have regulatory frameworks or guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs.

**Priority Action 2.4:** Promote participation in the Project ION Incident Communication System (IONICS) to facilitate real-time communication of incidents involving suspicious shipments of, trafficking in, or illicit manufacture or production of NPS, including fentanyl-related substances and other non-medical synthetic opioids and amphetamine derivatives.

Saint Lucia participates in the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)'s Project ION (International Operations on NPS). The Ministry of Health and Wellness, and the Customs and Excise Department serve as the focal point.
**Priority Action 2.5:** Develop innovative regulatory approaches, such as generic controls, analogue legislation, and temporary or emergency controls, to enhance national controls on synthetic opioids for non-medical use, and NPS, particularly when scheduling fentanyl-related substances by class.

Saint Lucia has the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act as the innovative legislation approach to synthetic opioids for non-medical use and NPS.


**Priority Action 3.1:** Promote inter-agency coordination with industry to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances.

Saint Lucia has the Pharmacy Council as the 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.

The country does not have the instruments or mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls or cooperation methods, to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

Saint Lucia does not have an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances.

The country’s competent authorities do not carry out regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle controlled chemical substances.

**Priority Action 3.2:** Conduct analyses, including through existing mechanisms of information exchange, on substances, their analogues, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health in member states, to identify substances for expedited international control.

Saint Lucia has not carried 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.

**Priority Action 3.3:** Strengthen the existing international control system to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances, pharmaceutical products, and precursors used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, as well as interdiction to counter the trafficking of chemical substances.

Saint Lucia has the Drugs (Prevention and Misuse) Act and the Pharmacy Act incorporating the control measures in Article 12, Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.
**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.

Saint Lucia has implemented the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 8 of the 1988 United Nations Convention:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Control measures</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Control of all persons and enterprises engaged in the manufacture and distribution of controlled chemical substances</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Control, under license, the establishment and premises in which manufacture or distribution of controlled chemical substances may take place</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Require that licensees obtain a permit for manufacturing or distributing controlled chemical substances</td>
<td>x</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevent the accumulation of controlled chemical substances in the possession of manufacturers and distributors, in excess of the quantities required for the normal conduct of business and the prevailing market conditions</td>
<td></td>
<td>x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The country has not implemented any control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention.

Saint Lucia complies with the request for information in Article 12, Paragraph 10 of the 1988 United Nations Convention.

**Priority Action 3.5:** Promote participation in the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system and Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS) to facilitate information exchange on controlled chemical substances.

Saint Lucia uses the International Narcotics Control Board’s (INCB) information system for pre-export notifications (PEN Online) of controlled chemical substances.

The country uses the INCB’s Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS).

**Priority Action 3.6:** Train relevant drug investigation, control and interdiction personnel and researchers on the identification and handling of precursors and other controlled chemical substances used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

Saint Lucia receives the following training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training Programs</th>
<th>Institution in charge (national or international)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UNODC ICE Program</td>
<td>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Precursor Chemical Training</td>
<td>International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New realities of synthetic drugs in the hemisphere:</td>
<td>OAS/CICAD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>towards a prospective analysis</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Symposium on Synthetic Drugs</td>
<td>OAS/CICAD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Priority Action 3.7:** Allocate 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.

In Saint Lucia there are 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. In this sense, each department is given a budget within which they acquire resources.

**Priority Action 3.8:** Use, as appropriate, CICAD’s Model Regulations for the control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (2019) in the formulation of national chemical control regulations.

Saint Lucia does not use 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.

**Priority Action 4.1:** Streamline, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations, the process for issuing authorizations for national production, and to import and export controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes.

Saint Lucia has special processes for issuing authorizations for importing substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. The following table indicates how long it takes, on average, for an import authorization to be issued:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product type</th>
<th>Average time to issue import permits</th>
<th>Average time to issue export permits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Narcotic or psychotropic raw materials for the manufacture of medicines</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication containing narcotic or psychotropic drugs</td>
<td>5-7 days</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytical patterns classified as narcotic or psychotropic</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medication classified as narcotic or psychotropic for the personal use of travelers entering or leaving the country</td>
<td>5-7 days</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The country does not have an updated register of individuals or companies importing substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

**Priority Action 4.2:** Adopt measures, in accordance with national laws, to train competent authorities and health professionals on ensuring access to substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

Saint Lucia does not have 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.

**Priority Action 4.3:** Improve access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by addressing existing barriers, including those related to laws, regulations, and measures to promote access and build capacity for health care systems.

Saint Lucia has the following regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes:
• Pharmacy Act Cap. 11.21
• Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act, Cap. 3.02
Priority Action 5.1: Strengthen or implement control measures on pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or controlled psychoactive substances, to prevent their diversion for non-medical purposes, abuse, and trafficking.

Saint Lucia does not have an updated register of individuals or corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances.

The country does not issue licenses to manufacturers or distributors authorizing the handling of pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances.

Saint Lucia does not carry out regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic 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.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Penalty</th>
<th>Year when it was last updated</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Criminal</td>
<td>2013 amendment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil</td>
<td>2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative</td>
<td>2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Priority Action 5.3: Strengthen national capacity and regional cooperation to prevent trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including pill presses and encapsulating equipment.

Saint Lucia does not offer 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.
The country does not share information with other regional or global systems on the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

**Priority Action 5.4:** Promote the incorporation of competent national authorities to the International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES) of the International Narcotics Control Board, a secure online platform, ready to issue, load, and exchange expeditiously import and export authorizations of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical use, between countries.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness of Saint Lucia uses the International Narcotics Control Board’s (INCB) International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES).

The country has not received training on the INCB’s I2ES System.
**Priority Action 6.1:** Train law enforcement personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations, including through the use of existing information systems and intelligence data exchanges.

Saint Lucia participates in the following periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations:

- OAS/CICAD Training on Drafting National Drug Policies, Strategies and Plans
- Countering Illicit Drug Trafficking in the Americas
- Drug Information Network and National Drug Observatory (Drug Supply Indicator)
- Those offered by International Narcotics Control Board (INCB)
- Prosecution of small arm offenses - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- Advanced drug investigation course
- Intelligence collection courses
- Basis drug investigations
- Money laundering investigation courses
- Human trafficking course

**Priority Action 6.2:** Enhance the capabilities of law enforcement agencies that investigate and counter drug trafficking and the crimes that facilitate and are associated with trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering, through ongoing training of the involved personnel.

Saint Lucia implements and participates in the following periodic training programs and other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering:

- OAS/CICAD training on Drafting National Drug Policies, Strategies and Plans
- Countering Illicit Drug Trafficking in the Americas
- Drug Information Network & National Drug Observatory (Drug Supply Indicator)
- Those offered by INCB
- Prosecution of small arm offenses (UNODC)
- Advanced drug investigation course
- Intelligence collection courses
- Basis drug investigations
- Money laundering investigation courses
- Human trafficking course
**Priority Action 6.3:** Strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information among the domestic, regional, and international law enforcement agencies to carry out operations and investigations to counter drug trafficking and related crimes.

Saint Lucia 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. In this sense, there is exchange of intelligence to disrupt drug trafficking and money laundering activities through the Customs – World Customs Organization (WCO), and Caribbean Customs Law Enforcement Council (CCLEC) - Enforcement Liaison Officer network and Information from Intelligence Units of Customs agencies upon formal request. There is also a database of cases from Customs agencies regionally, and the Regional Clearance System (RCS) used to track vessel movement within the region.

**Priority Action 6.4:** Promote and strengthen the exchange of information and intelligence on matters of drug interdiction and effective border control measures to prevent drug trafficking by land, river, sea, and air.

Saint Lucia has the following 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:

- Memorandum of Understandings between the Police, Customs, and Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA). If a crime is committed, all parties will have some investigation to do in accordance with the laws which may have been violated. The first responding agency will inform the others of the infringement and a joint investigation will take place.

**Priority Action 6.5:** Improve the information systems on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behavior patterns and modus operandi of criminal drug trafficking organizations.

Saint Lucia does not have a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors or modus operandi of criminal organizations.
Priority Action 7.1: Strengthen implementation of the legal, regulatory, and operational frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering associated with drug trafficking.

Saint Lucia has strengthened the legislative frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. In this sense, the country has the Money Laundering (Prevention) Act and the Proceeds of Crime Act.

Priority Action 7.2: Develop and implement specialized ongoing training in areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking, consistent with known and emerging risks.

Saint Lucia does not have training programs for officials and those vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking.

Priority Action 7.3: Enhance investigations by competent authorities into drug trafficking cases linked to money laundering and illicit use of assets.

Saint Lucia has protocols that enable its authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking. When law enforcement makes drug seizures, the matter is reported to the Financial Intelligence Authority to enable them to conduct their relevant investigations.

Priority Action 7.4: Strengthen interagency coordination and cooperation in relation to the development of national anti-money laundering strategies, including through coordinating committees and task forces.

Saint Lucia has the following mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering:

- Joint investigations and prosecutions for money laundering by Inter Agency Intelligence Committee comprising of the Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA), Police, and Customs intelligence units
**Priority Action 7.5:** Strengthen the exchange of financial intelligence as related to money laundering, including through the standardization of information systems.

Saint Lucia has the Financial Intelligence Authority (FIA) as its financial intelligence unit.

The country has information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. In this sense, persons from the analysis unit analyze the Suspicious Activity Report (SAR) databases and databases compiled through referrals from Customs and Police.

**Priority Action 7.6:** Identify and analyze money laundering threats to mitigate risks through public policies that strengthen the regime for preventing and countering money laundering, in accordance with applicable international instruments.

Saint Lucia has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. In this sense, the country uses the National Anti-Money Laundering Oversight Committee (NAMLOC). This committee entails Financial Intelligence Authority, Director of Public Prosecution’s Office, Attorney General’s office, Financial Services Regulatory Authority, Customs and Excise Department, and a representative from the private sector. The Committee employs a risk-based analysis approach at a national level.

**Priority Action 7.7:** Strengthen partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities.

Saint Lucia 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. In this sense, the partnership entails all financial institutions, including local and offshore banks, credit unions, Insurance, money service businesses, lending agencies, and registered agents.

It also entails designated non-financial businesses including lawyers, real estate agents, car dealers, jewelers, and accountants. Because of the oversight of Financial Services Regulatory Authority (FSRA) and FIA, the activities and responsibilities are legislated in the Money Laundering (Prevention) Act. There is an obligation among the parties where certain regulations and guidelines must be followed. All suspicious activities are to be followed.
**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.

**Priority Action 8.1:** Establish and/or strengthen, as appropriate, national entities responsible for the administration and disposition of assets seized and/or forfeited in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes.

**Priority Action 8.2:** Establish specialized agencies and appropriate mechanisms for the transparent administration of seized and forfeited assets, in accordance with national laws and international standards.

Saint Lucia has the Office of the Attorney General as the designated competent authority responsible for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets, through the Constitution of Saint Lucia.

The country has the following regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets:

- Money Laundering (Prevention) Act
- Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act
- Proceeds of Crime Act

**Priority Action 8.3:** Develop and implement specialized, ongoing training programs for law enforcement officials charged with the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

Saint Lucia does not offer nor participate in specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

**Priority Action 8.4:** In accordance with each country’s constitutional principles, apply legislative and regulatory measures to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture and management of assets, instruments, or products of illicit drug-related activities.

Saint Lucia has the Money Laundering (Prevention) Act and the Proceeds of Crime Act, 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.
Priority Action 9.1: Design, implement, and update national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of drugs.

Saint Lucia, through the Attorney General’s Office and the Drug Unit has updated national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production or manufacture of drugs. In 2022, the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act, (Cannabis Cultivation) Regulations sanctioned the possession of 30 grams of Marijuana and the cultivation of a maximum of 4 plants in a dwelling house. Restrictions apply, including a prohibition from cultivating near school premises.

Priority Action 9.2: Establish budgetary mechanisms to ensure sufficient and consistent allocation of resources to counternarcotics programs.

Saint Lucia has direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. In that sense, each department (Ministry of Health, Pharmacy, Royal Saint Lucia Police Force, Substance Abuse Advisory Council Secretariat - SAACS) has a separate budgetary allocation for drug prevention and intervention programs.

Priority Action 9.3: Promote supply reduction measures that take into account licit traditional uses, whenever there is historical evidence of such uses, as well as environmental protection.

Saint Lucia takes into account the licit traditional use in designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs. In this sense, amendment to the Drugs (Prevention of Misuse) Act in 2022 makes provision for the cultivation of cannabis. This was done with the religious communities in mind.

The country does not include environmental protection measures in its policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs.

Priority Action 9.4: Strengthen interagency cooperation to provide a comprehensive response against the illicit production of drugs, including collaboration among the public and private sectors and the international community.
Saint Lucia has not established mechanisms for interinstitutional cooperation between public and private institutions to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs.

**Priority Action 9.5:** Support supply reduction programs with crime prevention initiatives, in cooperation with civil society and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to address social and economic risk factors.

Saint Lucia supports the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors, which includes the participation from civil society and other social stakeholders, through the following program:

- Break Free through Drug Education.
Priority Action 10.1: Design and implement comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, while respecting human rights.

Saint Lucia has not designed or implemented comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs or preventive alternative development, as appropriate, as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops.

Priority Action 10.2: Exchange experiences and best practices in the design and implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate.

Not applicable.

Priority Action 10.3: Promote and disseminate the results of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and the benefits they provide to affected communities.

Not applicable.

Priority Action 10.4: Design and/or strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems for comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs aimed at reducing illicit crop cultivation and improving the well-being of communities, through the use of indicators that measure programs’ effectiveness.

Not applicable.

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.

Not applicable.
**Priority Action 10.6:** Promote, in accordance with national realities, the participation of local communities and relevant organizations in the development of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, taking into account their needs and capabilities.

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 10.7:** Promote partnerships and innovative cooperative initiatives with the private sector, civil society, and international financial institutions to spur investment and job creation in areas and communities affected by or at-risk of illicit drug cultivation and production, and share related practices, lessons learned, expertise, and skills.

Not applicable.
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.

**Priority Action 11.1:** Conduct research and studies on the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and illicit production of drugs.

Saint Lucia 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.

**Priority Action 11.2:** Design and implement specific research-based plans to mitigate the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and drug production, with the participation of local communities.

Not applicable.

**Priority Action 11.3:** Promote and strengthen the use of environmental management tools, as appropriate.

Not applicable.
**Objective 12**

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

**Priority Action 12.1:** Develop and implement local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes.

**Priority Action 12.4:** Encourage the development and implementation of comprehensive intervention strategies to counter local illicit distribution and sale of drugs.

Saint Lucia has not developed or implemented local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking or related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, or citizen security.

**Priority Action 12.2:** Promote the interagency exchange of information at the national level to better understand the scope and adverse effects of small-scale drug trafficking, including on health, society, the economy, and security.

Saint Lucia promotes the interagency exchange of information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking in the health, social, economic, and security sectors. These exchanges are carried out in accordance with the following table:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entities among which information was exchanged</th>
<th>Means of exchange</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drug Information Network (DIN)</td>
<td>Data collection and dissemination</td>
<td>2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Drug Observatory (NDO)</td>
<td>Dissemination</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Country report</td>
<td>Educational/dissemination</td>
<td>On a continual basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach programs</td>
<td>Mass media, advertisement</td>
<td>On a continual basis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community relations branch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Priority Action 12.3:** Promote programs and strategies to prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.

Saint Lucia has the following program that prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level:

- Break Free through Drug Education: This is a program for all persons referred to the probation department by the courts regardless of age and gender.
EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

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 that Saint Lucia does not implement or participate in ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, or dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations; nor has protocols or procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. CICAD also notes that the agencies in charge of drug control in Saint Lucia do not implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming. However, CICAD observes that the country has programs and strategies for land, maritime, and aerial interdiction of drugs through monitoring, inspections, and checkpoints, but not for riverine interdiction. CICAD also notes that Saint Lucia has a legal instrument providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have updated assessments or studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes. On the other hand, CICAD observes with satisfaction that Saint Lucia implements actions to identify organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes, implements inter-institutional collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in these crimes, and participated in operations and investigations with other countries aimed at dismantling these groups. Moreover, CICAD 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) but does not have or participates in ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. However, CICAD observes that Saint Lucia has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across government counterparts, and 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 does not have partnerships or information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes nor uses tools or resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals. CICAD notes with satisfaction that Saint Lucia 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 on 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 that Saint Lucia does not have 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. On the other hand, 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. However, CICAD observes that Saint Lucia does not have a regulatory frameworks or guidelines to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs. On the other hand, CICAD notes with satisfaction that the country participates in the INCB’s Project ION, and has innovative legislation related 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 Saint Lucia has a competent national authority responsible for developing guides and codes of conduct but does not have instruments or mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances. CICAD also observes that the country does not have an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances and that its competent authority does not carry out regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia has not carried 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. On the other hand, CICAD observes that Saint Lucia 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 two of the four control measures listed in Paragraph 8, but none of the control measures listed in Paragraph 9. However, the country incorporates the requests for information pursuant to Paragraph 10. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country uses the INCB’s PEN Online system for pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances as well as the PICS system. Additionally, CICAD observes that Saint Lucia 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. However, CICAD observes that Saint Lucia does not use 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 Saint Lucia has special processes for issuing authorizations for the import of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes but does not have an updated register of individuals or companies importing substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country does not have training or awareness activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes. However, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia 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 Saint Lucia does not have an updated register of individuals or corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances, nor issues licenses to manufacturers or distributors of these products, nor carries out regular inspections or audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle them. However, 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. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia does not offer periodic training programs for personnel responsible for preventing trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for the illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, nor shares information with other regional or global systems on this matter. However, CICAD observes that the country uses the INCB’s I2ES system; but has not received training on the use of 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 Saint Lucia participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations. Furthermore, CICAD observes that the country implements and 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. Additionally, CICAD notes with satisfaction that Saint Lucia 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 observes 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. However, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia does not have 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 that Saint Lucia has strengthened its legislative framework to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. However, CICAD observes with concern that the country does not have training programs for officials or those in vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia has protocols that enable authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. CICAD also notes that Saint Lucia has the financial intelligence unit as well as information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with FATF recommendations. Additionally, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia has established partnerships with 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 with satisfaction that Saint Lucia has a competent authority responsible for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets and regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets. However,
CICAD observes that the country does not offer or participate in specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia 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 that Saint Lucia has updated national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of drugs. Furthermore, CICAD observes that the country has direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that Saint Lucia takes into account licit traditional uses when designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs but does not include environmental protection measures in these policies and programs. Moreover, 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. On the other hand, CICAD notes with satisfaction that Saint Lucia supports the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors, which include the participation of 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 Saint Lucia has not designed nor implemented comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs or preventive alternative development, therefore, the priority actions of this objective are not applicable.

**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 Saint Lucia 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 Saint Lucia has not developed or implemented approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, or citizen security. On the other hand, 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 with satisfaction that Saint Lucia has a program to prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.