



**OAS** | **CICAD**



**INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE  
CONTROL COMMISSION  
CICAD**

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

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**CICAD EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT  
WORK PLAN 2024**

# CICAD Executive Secretariat

## Work Plan 2024



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# Statutory Obligations

The functions of the Commission shall be...

- To consider and approve the programs to be executed by the Executive Secretariat.
- To study the reports, plans, and annual work programs presented to it by the Executive Secretariat.
- To give assignments to the Executive Secretariat that are consistent with the latter's mandates.
- The Commission shall hold two regular sessions per year, one an ordinary session, the other to address specific technical topics determined by the Commission or such other matters that require its special attention.

# Statutory Obligations (Cont.)

The Executive Secretary shall ...

- Prepare the programs to be executed by the Executive Secretariat.
- Submit reports to the Commission on the activities of the Executive Secretariat.
- Serve as Secretary of the Commission during its sessions.
- Perform the technical and administrative activities that the Commission entrusts.

# Executive Secretariat of CICAD (ES-CICAD)

**Institutional  
Strengthening  
Unit**

**Demand  
Reduction Unit**

**Supply  
Reduction  
Unit**

**Multilateral  
Evaluation  
Mechanism (MEM)  
Unit**

**Inter-American  
Observatory on  
Drugs (OID)**

**Drug Control Capacity Building and Technical  
Assistance Section**

**Evidence-Based Drug Policy Section: Information,  
Design, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation, and  
Data Collection and Analysis**

# Drug Control Capacity Building and Technical Assistance Section

- **Institutional Strengthening Unit**
- **Demand Reduction Unit**
- **Supply Reduction Unit**

# Institutional Strengthening Unit

## Mission

Provide technical assistance to support the strengthening of member states' institutions and their capabilities, and the design and implementation of drug policies.

# National Strategies and Plans of Action

Provide technical assistance for the support and strengthening of the development of drug policies, strategies, and action plans, including monitoring and evaluation tools, in accordance with the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy of 2020, and its corresponding Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025.

## Technical Assistance for the Development and Implementation of National Drug Policies, Strategies, and Action Plans in the Americas (PHASE 3)

**Budget:** US\$ 82,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Improved capacity for access to information/data to underpin the development of national drug strategies and action plans, including information and statistics related to gender.
- Increased knowledge and skills of drug policy makers within national drug agencies in the development of national drug strategies and action plans and related monitoring and evaluation frameworks, incorporating a gender perspective.

## IGUALDROGAS: Inclusion of the Gender Perspective into Drug Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean

**Budget:** US\$ 215,889

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Technical document drafted on how to include the gender perspective into the development of drug strategies.
- Improved knowledge and skills of policy makers and drug policy implementors in how to integrate gender in their policies.

# Alternatives to Incarceration

Promote the development and strengthening of policies, strategies, and programs for penal alternatives – including legal reforms – that encourage the socio-labor integration of individuals in contact with the criminal justice system for drug-related offenses, reduce the number of criminal proceedings, and decrease incarceration. ES-CICAD will continue to support member states with the analysis of various alternatives to incarceration, as well as the development and implementation of specialized intervention strategies for pre-trial, during, and post-criminal justice process phases.

## GENDER AND ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION

### Gender in the Criminal Justice System (Phase 2): Promotion of the Development and Implementation of Gender-Perspective Alternatives to Incarceration for Drug-Related Offenses.

This program aims to increase the consideration of gender in the exploration, development, and implementation of criminal justice policies and programs, as well as alternatives to incarceration, for drug-related offenses.

**Budget:** US\$ 566,170

**Beneficiaries:** Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago

#### **Expected Results:**

- Increase institutional capacity to implement, monitor, and evaluate human rights-based and gender-sensitive policies, programs, laws, and practices for drug-related offenses through alternatives to incarceration.
- Raise awareness about the importance of considering gender in the exploration, development, and implementation of criminal justice policies and alternatives to incarceration for drug-related offenses among policymakers and operators in criminal justice, health, and social services institutions.

# Alternatives to Incarceration

## REGIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### Strengthening Alternatives to Incarceration in Latin America and the Caribbean

This initiative supports member states in the design, adoption, and consolidation of alternatives to incarceration programs, including the Case Management and Comprehensive Care (CCM) model that enhances multidisciplinary and interinstitutional coordination between the justice system and health and social services for individuals with substance use disorders in contact with the criminal justice system, facilitating their social integration.

**Budget:** US\$ 373,000

**Beneficiaries:** Barbados, Colombia, Costa Rica, Guyana, Jamaica, Panama, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago

#### **Expected Results:**

- Increased number of countries receiving training and technical assistance on alternatives to incarceration and CCM.
- Piloting of the new CCM curriculum for Adolescents.
- Development of an executive curriculum on Alternatives to Incarceration.
- Enhanced capacity to monitor and evaluate alternatives to incarceration initiatives.

# Alternatives to Incarceration

## NATIONAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

### MEXICO: Expansion of the Drug Treatment Courts Model in Mexico/Therapeutic Justice Program (TJP)

**Budget:** US\$ 393,919

**Beneficiary:** Mexico

**Expected Results:**

- External evaluation and dissemination of results.
- Virtualization of the Basic Principles of the Therapeutic Justice Program course.

### PERU: Therapeutic Justice (TJ) for Adolescents with Substance Use Disorders in Peru: Second Phase

**Budget:** US\$ 147,000

**Beneficiary:** Peru

**Expected Results:**

- Strengthening of the two existing pilot programs through follow-up training and technical assistance in the Lima Centro and Ventanilla programs.
- Expanding of TJ pilot programs for minors in the judicial and/or prosecutorial districts of Ayacucho, La Libertad, Loreto, and Huaura.

### COLOMBIA: Promoting the Smarter Use of Alternatives to Incarceration and Sentencing through Better Information in Colombia

**Budget:** US\$ 707,000

**Beneficiary:** Colombia

**Expected Results:**

- Piloted version of a tool for the execution phase of the sentence and a tool for the preventive measure phase.
- Establishment of a monitoring mechanism for women beneficiaries of Law 2292 of 2023.

# Alternatives to Incarceration

## ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION AND THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITIES

### Strengthening Therapeutic Communities and Treatment Centers in Latin America and the Caribbean with Italian Support (FOCTALI)

This initiative promotes best practices that encourage innovative approaches to socio-labor integration for individuals involved in the justice system with substance use disorders, supporting the development of programs that consider culture, age, and gender.

**Budget:** US\$ 114,650

**Beneficiaries:** Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Guyana, Jamaica, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay

#### **Expected Results :**

- Increased technical capacity to integrate monitoring and evaluation into the design and implementation of social integration programs.
- Greater awareness and capacity to address gender issues in social integration programs.
- Exchange of best practices with the San Patrignano Therapeutic Community in Italy.

# Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development

## Group of Experts on Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development (GEDAIS, by its Spanish-language acronym)

GEDAIS is a high-level technical forum through which to discuss trends and issues facing comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, with a focus on human development.

**Budget:** In-kind contributions

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- GEDAIS meeting in 2024.
- Increased awareness among OAS member states about the benefits of DAIS.
- Enhanced collaboration and knowledge exchange among OAS member states, experts, and international organizations.
- Fostering environmental sustainability and protection under DAIS.

# Demand Reduction Unit

## Mission

Strengthen the human and institutional capacities of the OAS member states to prevent drug use problems and provide treatment for people with substance use disorders.

# Prevention

## Evaluation of community preventive strategies and preparation of technical documents with recommendations for the region

- Assess the outcomes of community preventive strategies implemented selected countries.
- Disseminate best practices and recommendations for the region.

**Budget:** US\$ 495,813

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Enhanced capacity to support effective prevention programs.
- Systems of information on demand reduction optimized.

## Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) Implementer Series Online Trainings

- Digitalization of the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) to continue with online training.
- UPC train the trainer in Spanish and English for Latin America and the Caribbean member states.

**Budget:** US\$ 175,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states in Latin America and the Caribbean.

### **Expected Result:**

- Improved knowledge, capacities, and skills of the workforce in prevention in Latin America and Caribbean member states.

# Prevention

## Training of Trainers in the Universal Prevention Curriculum (UPC) – Practitioner Series for Caribbean Countries (Core and School-based Prevention Courses)

- To build a new cadre of UPC trainers (core and school-based prevention) for the OAS English-speaking Caribbean member states.

**Budget:** US\$ 86,980

**Beneficiaries:** OAS English-speaking Caribbean member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Improved knowledge, capacities, and skills of the workforce in school-based prevention in Caribbean member states.

## Pilot project to support youth-led drug use prevention and mental health initiatives

- Phase II of the CICAD-Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD) pilot program for supporting youth-led drug use prevention and mental health initiatives implemented in school and community settings.

**Budget:** US\$ 60,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS Caribbean member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Youth prepared to lead initiatives that promote resilience and positive life decisions.
- Communities and schools prepared to implement initiatives aimed at improving mental health.

# Prevention

## Youth Forum on Drug Use Prevention and Training in the Engaging Youth in Prevention Curriculum

- To promote youth leadership in drug demand reduction by supporting youth-led prevention initiatives.

**Budget:** US\$ 246,170

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Increased awareness on the issue of drug use among youth.
- Youth motivated and inspired to take leadership roles in drug demand reduction initiatives in their communities.

## Youth in Prevention Hemispheric Network

- Development of a Hemispheric Youth Network and Training Support.

**Budget:** US\$ 79,579

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Young people from around the Hemisphere connected and empowered to become active prevention influencers in their schools, communities, and countries.
- Youth participating and becoming active members of a community of young people committed to supporting the health and well-being of their peers.

# Prevention

## Development of Comprehensive and Integrated Strategies to Strengthen National Prevention Workforces and Systems to Prevent and Address Substance Use in OAS Member States

- Support member states build their capacity and develop evidence-based policies and programs that address the complex social, economic, and public health issues related to drug use, by promoting a comprehensive and evidence-based approach.

**Budget:** US\$ 95,520

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Strengthened national prevention workforces and systems to prevent and address substance use in member states.

## Pilot Program for Learning Tutorial and Implementation of DDR Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Services at the Local Government Level in OAS Member States

- Improve the capacity and technical retention of the drug demand reduction (DDR) workforce in Latin America and the Caribbean, through a pilot program aimed at adding a complementary, but mandatory practical implementation of DDR services for DDR professionals at the local, municipality/community level.

**Budget:** US\$ 225,630

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Specific plans developed for implementing low-cost prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation programs at the municipal level in OAS member states. Improved capacities of countries to implement sustainable preventive, treatment and recovery interventions.

# Treatment

## Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC) Basic Series - Support Certification of Professionals in the UTC Online Courses in the OAS English-speaking Caribbean member states

- Foster the dissemination of the UTC Basic Series Training through the online UTC courses in OAS English-speaking member states.

**Budget:** US\$ 12,500

**Beneficiaries:** OAS English-speaking Caribbean member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Improved knowledge, capacities, and skills of the workforce in treatment in English-speaking Caribbean member states.

# Treatment

## Network of women's treatment centers in Latin America and the Caribbean

Establish a strong network of women's residential treatment centers.

- Exchange information in areas such as types of programs offered, accreditations, excellence of rehabilitation programs, or data on relapse through the creation of a directory on women's substance use disorder treatment services.

**Budget:** US\$ 131,040

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Women's substance use disorder treatment services improved in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Expanded and improved availability of treatment services for women in Latin America and the Caribbean.

## Curriculum for Treating Adolescents with Substance Use Disorders (SUDs)

This Curriculum for Treating Adolescents with SUDs presents an approach to the treatment of adolescents with substance use disorders and addresses the main factors that place them at greater risk and vulnerability than other populations.

**Budget:** US\$ 114,755

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Increased availability of training in drug demand reduction.
- Improved knowledge, capacities, and skills of the workforce in treating adolescents with substance use disorders in Latin American and Caribbean member states.

# Treatment

## International Certified Addiction Professional (ICAP) Credentialing for Humphrey Fellows

This one-week Universal Treatment Curriculum (UTC) refresher course will be offered to Humphrey Fellows.

This proposal aims to increase the number of professionals holding an ICAP certification after completing the UTC basic series training.

**Budget:** US\$ 12,860

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

**Expected Result:**

- Expanded network of ICAP certified providers.

# Recovery

## Recovery Symposium for Latin America

Per the Memorandum of Understanding between OAS/CICAD and the International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP), CICAD will conduct a three-day Regional Recovery Symposium to train on the Universal Recovery Curriculum (URC).

**Budget:** US\$ 110,378

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states in Latin America

### **Expected Result:**

- Recovery network in Latin America strengthened, with increased capacity to exchange experiences and implement best practices.

# Crosscutting (Prevention and Treatment)

## Demand Reduction Experts Group

The Demand Reduction Experts Group is composed of technical experts from OAS member states.

- To provide technical expertise, facilitate cooperation among countries, and submit recommendations to the Commission on implementing the lines of action that derive from the Hemispheric Drug Strategy.
- Recommend strategies to address priority issues related to drug demand reduction.

**Budget:** US\$ 52,400

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Increased capacity to implement the lines of action that derive from the Hemispheric Drug Strategy.
- Improved horizontal cooperation and exchange of experiences and good practices in drug demand reduction.

## DDR Demonstration Project: Support to the Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Programming in Pereira, Colombia

To demonstrate the impact of intensive Demand Reduction programming.

- Providing technical assistance to the Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation working groups for the program's planning, implementation, and evaluation phases and coordinate the project programming with national and local authorities.

**Budget:** US\$ 200,973

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Improved prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation initiatives and programs in the Hemisphere.
- Improved knowledge, capacities, and skills of the workforce in drug demand reduction.

# Crosscutting (Prevention and Treatment)

## Drug Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Training for Faith-Based Organizations and Leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean

Deliver an introductory course to provide a basic understanding of drug use disorders, and the means to address the drug problem.

- The Curriculum for Faith-Based Organizations will be translated into English and peer reviewed with experts from the region.

**Budget:** US\$ 75,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Strengthened capacity of faith-based organizations to address the problematic use of drugs, with evidence-based strategies.

# Collaboration with Civil Society

## International Consortium of Universities for Drug Demand Reduction (ICUDDR)

Foster coordinated activities of research, training, and international cooperation in the field of drug demand reduction among universities in the Western Hemisphere as the Regional Coordinator of the ICUDDR.

- Second Latin American and Caribbean Regional Meeting of the ICUDDR.
- Execution of the Regional Work Plan.

**Budget:** US\$ 88,900

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Strengthened capacity to implement drug demand reduction initiatives and programs in collaboration with academia.
- Improved capacity of universities to transfer knowledge to the drug demand reduction workforce.

## Advanced Certificate Program in Media-Based Prevention Science

This program, led by Claremont Graduate University, teaches drug demand reduction professionals to apply theories of persuasion in implementing evidence-based prevention campaigns.

- Six member states will implement their media-based prevention campaigns.

**Budget:** US\$ 30,000

**Beneficiaries** OAS member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Improved content and effectiveness of prevention campaigns using traditional communication media and social networks.

# Collaboration with Civil Society

## International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP)

Support and promote the work of the ISSUP national chapters in the region.

**Budget:** US\$ 204,800

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Increased capacity to implement evidence-based prevention and treatment programs and projects in the region, with the support of substance use professionals.
- Expanded the network of substance use professionals in the region, with special emphasis on Caribbean member states.

## Cooperation with Civil Society Organizations: Latin American Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FLACT) and the Ibero-American Network of NGOs Working on Drugs and Addictions (RIOD)

Development of coordinated activities in drug demand reduction, based on scientific evidence and in accordance with the international standards for the treatment of drug use disorders.

**Budget:** US\$ 61,970

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Result:**

- Evidence-based treatment and recovery support services, in accordance with the international standards for treatment.

# Collaboration with Civil Society

## Global Dialogue

Continue participating in a working group with the African Union and Colombo Plan, to explore further collaboration between the regions.

**Budget:** US\$ 30,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

### **Expected Results:**

- Increased global network of partners and capacity to develop and implement evidence-based drug demand reduction programs and projects in OAS member states.
- Strengthened global exchange of experiences and good practices in drug demand reduction.

# Supply Reduction Unit

## Mission

Strengthen the capacity of member states to disrupt the illicit production, trafficking, and sale of drugs, as well as to prevent the diversion of chemical precursors used in their manufacture.

# Counterdrug Intelligence

Program to increase the capacity of analysts and investigators from member states in specialized techniques related to the development and analysis of counterdrug police intelligence, enhancing their ability to effectively investigate and dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking.

- Capacity-building courses (virtual and in-person) and technical assistance within the framework of the Counterdrug Intelligence School of the Americas (ERCAIAD, by its Spanish-language acronym).
- Capacity-building courses (virtual and in-person) and technical assistance within the framework of the Caribbean Counterdrug Intelligence Training School (CCITS).

**Budget:** US\$ 150,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

**Expected results:**

- Increased knowledge of counterdrug analysts and investigators from Latin America and the Caribbean in counterdrug police intelligence.
- Enhanced effectiveness of investigations and operations against drug trafficking.

# Control of Chemical Precursors, Synthetic Drugs, and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)

Program to strengthen the capacities of OAS member states to counter the illicit use of precursor chemicals in the production and manufacture of natural and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and other chemical substances.

- Technical assistance and training activities in the control of chemical precursors and the final disposal of seized or confiscated chemical substances.
- National training seminars for the detection and identification of synthetic drugs, including NPS and their precursor chemicals.
- Training courses for forensic experts from Latin America for the analysis and identification of NPS.
- Training courses on the international regulatory framework for controlled substances and their availability for medical and scientific purposes.
- Training courses for the detection of shipments of synthetic drugs and NPS through public/private postal and parcel services.
- Meeting of CICAD's Group of Experts on Chemical Substances and Pharmaceutical Products.

**Budget:** US\$ 220,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

## Expected results:

- Strengthened capacities to prevent the trafficking and diversion of precursor chemicals, as well as the safe handling and disposal of seized or confiscated precursor chemicals.
- Promote the exchange of information, experiences, knowledge, and best practices to counter the trafficking and diversion of precursor chemicals, as well as the proliferation of synthetic drugs and NPS.
- Enhanced capacities to prevent the diversion of narcotics and psychotropic substances without affecting their availability for medical and scientific purposes.
- Strengthened capacities to counter the trafficking of synthetic drugs and NPS through public and private postal and parcel services.

# Counterdrug Maritime Cooperation and Maritime/Port Narcotrafficking Control

Program to support law enforcement, port authorities, customs, and other agencies to investigate, detect, and interdict drug trafficking in the maritime, riverine, and port domains.

- Capacity-building to counter maritime and riverine illicit drug trafficking.
- Regional conference to promote operational and legal cooperation in drug interdiction operations in the maritime domain.
- Meeting of the Group of Experts on Maritime Narcotrafficking.

**Budget:** US\$ 100,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

## **Expected results:**

- Strengthened operational capacity of maritime authorities, law enforcement, and customs agencies to investigate, detect, and interdict drug trafficking in the maritime, riverine, and port domains.
- Enhanced inter-agency, regional and international cooperation in maritime counterdrug multilateral operations.

# Aerial Drug Trafficking Control

Program to strengthen the capacity of OAS member states to counter drug trafficking by air and increase regional cooperation.

- Capacity-building and technical assistance to counter aerial drug trafficking.
- Sub-regional meeting of CICAD's Working Group on Aerial Drug Trafficking Control.

**Budget:** US\$ 75,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

**Expected results:**

- Strengthened operational capacity of competent authorities to investigate, detect, and interdict aerial drug trafficking.
- Enhanced inter-agency cooperation at the national and hemispheric level.
- Main trends in aerial drug trafficking in the region identified.

# Promotion of Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies

The Inter-American Program for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies (GENLEA) supports OAS member states counterdrug law enforcement agencies to strengthen gender equality with the aim of increasing their capacity to counter drug trafficking.

- Technical assistance and action plans for the implementation of the *GENLEA Handbook: Strategies and Good Practices for Strengthening Gender Equality in Counterdrug Law Enforcement Agencies*.
- Seminars on gender mainstreaming in counterdrug law enforcement agencies.
- Capacity-building courses (virtual and in-person) on counterdrug investigations and operations with a gender perspective.

**Budget:** US\$ 175,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

**Expected results:**

- Strengthened gender equality in the region's counterdrug law enforcement agencies.
- Increased knowledge and capacity of female officers to counter drug trafficking.

# Evidence-Based Drug Policy Section: Information, Design, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Data Collection and Analysis

- **Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID)**
- **Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) Unit**

# Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID)

## Mission

The OID is the scientific research and information unit at CICAD. Its mission is to support member states to understand, design, and implement policies that address the drug phenomenon in all its forms, through the use of information based on evidence that is objective, reliable, current, and comparable across countries.

# Early Warning Systems in Response to Opioids and New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) in Latin America and the Caribbean

This project contributes to the development of evidence-based policies to address the use of heroin, fentanyl, other synthetic opioids, and NPS in participating countries, supporting research and information collection on these drugs and other emerging drug phenomena in Latin America and the Caribbean.

- National capacity-building seminars (virtual and in-person) and technical assistance on different aspects of gathering information and research on emerging drugs. Regional and subregional capacity-building seminars (virtual and in-person) and technical assistance on different aspects of gathering information and research on emerging drugs.

**Budget:** US\$ 190,450

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states in Latin America and the Caribbean

## **Expected Results:**

- Increased knowledge of emerging drug threats at the national, subregional, and regional levels.
- Enhanced capacity in member states to implement or strengthen national EWS in response to emerging threats.
- Greater understanding in member states on the application of innovative methods, such as wastewater testing, to detect and respond to emerging drug threats.
- Regional and national training events convened
- Information bulletins published.

# Advancing Drug Research in the Americas

This project seeks to increase the availability of data and information on emerging threats from synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances (NPS) in participating member states. This project focuses on data collection and analysis.

- Rapid situation assessment study on the trafficking and use of synthetic drugs and other emerging substances in three Caribbean member states.
- Regional data collection exercise to gather updated information on synthetic drugs in the Americas.
- Regional analyses of emerging drug threats in member states.

**Budget:** US\$72,700

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

## **Expected Results:**

- Analytical report on synthetic drugs in three Caribbean countries published and disseminated.
- Updated qualitative and quantitative data on synthetic drugs in the Americas.
- Increased knowledge and awareness of emerging threats from synthetic drugs through the dissemination of research findings to member states.
- Information bulletins published on emerging substances.

# Advancing Drug Information Systems in the Americas: Monitoring Opioids, Synthetic Drugs, New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), and Other Substances

This project strengthens the capacity of OAS member states to collect and generate data and information for evidence-based drug policy and drug control programming, focusing on training and introducing new data-gathering techniques.

The project encompasses a series of capacity-building seminars to teach the fundamentals of identifying drug-related data sources, data collection methods, data cleaning, processing, systemizing, and analyzing so information can be presented in a meaningful way. The project includes regional data collection exercises to update data on supply indicators, including arrests, seizures, eradication, laboratories discovered, and drug prices, among others. Emphasis will be given to strengthening the role of forensic laboratories within the context of drug information networks and early warning systems on drugs in participating member states.

**Budget:** US\$ 321,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states in Latin America and the Caribbean

## **Expected Results:**

- Strengthened national and regional drug supply data collection and trend analysis.
- Strengthened drug use data collection and analysis: opioids, synthetic drugs, NPS, and other substances.
- Strengthened or established drug information networks (DINs) through stakeholder training in data gathering and analysis methods to monitor the drug problem over the long term.
- Strengthen national EWS by increasing the participation of national forensic laboratories.
- Information bulletins published.
- Virtual training events convened.

# Drug Monitoring in the Americas

This project increases the capacity of member states to collect, analyze, and report drug information by strengthening national observatories, strengthening drug information networks (DINs) and creating early warning systems (EWS) in the Caribbean and Latin America, and strengthening the Early Warning System in the Americas (SATA, by its Spanish-language acronym).

The project aims to improve the capacity of OAS member states to collect and generate data and information for evidence-based drug policy development and drug control programming.

- Regional, subregional, and national capacity-building seminars (virtual and in-person) on data collection, systematization, and analysis. Gather information and data from national EWS and develop subregional and regional analyses on emerging drug threats through the SATA.

**Budget:** US\$ 470,200

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states in Latin America and the Caribbean

## **Expected Results:**

- Improved national DINs and EWS to monitor the drug problem and identify emerging issues that require a rapid response.
- Improved research and data collection on emerging drug issues.
- Increased innovative and technologically-driven approaches to drug monitoring.
- Personnel in member states trained in drug research methods.
- Completed call for data on drug supply and demand information and published statistical summary of data gathered.
- Technical assistance to member states in the process of building national early warning systems.
- Information bulletins with updated information emanating from the Early Warning System of the Americas (SATA) published.

# Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) Unit

## Mission

Provide technical support for the design, review, and execution of this peer review process of member states' drug policies, ensuring fulfillment of the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its Plan of Action.

# MEM Eighth Round

The MEM is the 1998 Summit of the Americas mandate that works as a unique tool to measure member states' progress and challenges to address the drug problem and related crimes. Evaluations based on the OAS Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs thematic areas.

According to the eighth round methodology (2021-2024), the MEM features annual thematic evaluations in the first three years, and, in the fourth year (2024), it will carry out a comprehensive evaluation with the updates of the first three years.

- Awareness presentations on MEM results
- National dissemination of country thematic evaluation results
- Trainings for MEM National Coordinating Entities (NCEs) and Governmental Expert Group (GEG)
- Two GEG Plenary Drafting Sessions
- Publication of hemispheric brief on the areas of: Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation.
- Publication of national comprehensive evaluation reports.

**Budget:** US\$ 818,000

**Beneficiaries:** OAS member states

## **Expected Results:**

- Increased capacity of member states to address issues related to the areas of: Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation.
- Greater awareness of challenges facing member states with regards to the hemispheric drug problem.
- Strengthening of hemispheric cooperation and dialogue to confront the diverse aspects of the drug problem with greater efficacy.
- Development of technical assistance and training programs according to the needs of each member state.