Program “Strengthening of the National Drug Control Commissions”

EVALUATION OF CICAD PROJECTS

“NATIONAL STRATEGIES FOR DRUG CONTROL”

REPORT PRESENTED IN TWO PARTS

- General overview of the project: developed by the Executive Secretariat / Program - strengthening of national anti-drug systems;

- Evaluation of the project by an external consultant; report to be presented at CICAD XXXVIII by the consultant and includes in situ evaluation in 4 to 6 countries.
GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THE PROJECT

- In 1998, 22 member States had national strategies for drug control;
- Between 1999 and 2004, the Executive Secretariat provided technical assistance to 27 countries to elaborate or update and decentralize national strategies:
  - Antigua y Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados,
  - Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominica,
  - Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana,
  - Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Nicaragua,
  - Panama, Paraguay, Peru, República Dominicana,
  - St. Lucia, St. Vincent, St. Kitts and Nevis,
  - Trinidad and Tobago, and Venezuela.

WORK METHODOLOGY

- The Executive Secretariat designed a methodology
- Technical assistance to be done in three stages

1. Initial visit to
   - Identify objective of the Government’s anti-drug policy
   - Explore institutional capacity of NDC to coordinate process
   - Elaborate in consensus a plan of work, timeline of activities, and budget, for Government approval.

2. Workshops
   - Critical evaluation on the current state of the drug problem in the country
   - Produce inputs by thematic area to be included in the strategy
   - Designate a working group responsible for the elaboration of the strategy

3. Drafting of national strategy, including consultation on drafts.
CICAD’S BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT
US$ 2,336,000

SOURCE OF FINANCING

- **US$ 1,276,000** financed by the United States;
- **US$ 600,000** financed by the Spanish Agency for International Cooperation (AECI); and
- **US$ 460,000** financed by the OAS’s regular fund, which covers financing for technical personnel and two specialists

NATIONAL CONTRIBUTION
Technical personnel, and logistical contributions.

ALLOCATIONS FOR FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

- **Contract for three external consultants and one project administrator**
- **Contract for a local consultant to coordinate process of elaborating the strategy in 16 countries;**
- **Organization of workshops;**
- **Reproduction of approved strategies in 16 countries;**
- **Translation of strategies to English or Spanish in 9 countries; and to French the strategy of the Dominican Republic.**
CONCLUSIONS: POSITIVE ASPECTS

- All countries have NDC and a national strategy
- Multi-sector participation to elaborate strategy in response to need and coordination of the NDC
- Request of effective political will from central authority to strengthen the NDC and facilitate the execution of national drug strategy
- Invitation to municipal governments to develop local preventive plans with support of NDC
- The product of the confiscation of goods to be destined for funding the national drug strategy

CONCLUSIONS: POSITIVE ASPECTS

NDC has the leadership to
- Coordinate the planning and decentralized execution of the national strategy
- Manage national or international resources, public or private, and estimate the cost of the national strategy
- Integrate, process, and deliver official statistics within the framework of the national observatory of drugs
- Supervise development and evaluate results of the national strategy, as well as institutional efforts
- Study trends and elaborate annual report on the state of the demand and supply of drugs
CONCLUSIONS: KEY PROBLEMS

Recurrent in most countries

- Lack of concrete or effective political will
- Scarce budget in NDC and national strategy
- Weakness in NDC to promote national and international technical and financial cooperation
- Deficient coordination between NDC and ministries of Foreign Affairs to impulse international cooperation
- Changes in political environment affects the scarce technical personnel of NDC and specialized agencies

- Obsolete regulations hinder application of modern techniques of research, extradition, and international judicial cooperation
- Principal actions and resources of the strategy are concentrated in the capital of the country and decentralization criteria are not applied.
- Lack of integrated, standardized and up-to-date statistics in national observatories on drugs.
- Lack of studies and periodic research on demand and supply trends and related activities
RECOMMENDATION ON THE WORKSHOPS

The NDCs need the political support, effective budget, and specialized and permanent personnel for:

- The integration of a national anti-drugs system with national, provincial and municipal institutions
- Promoting the decentralization of the national strategy to the municipal governments
- Planning, promoting, and administering alternative funding for the national strategy, including the product of the confiscation of goods
- Follow-up and evaluation of obtained results and institutional efforts.

RECOMMENDATION ON THE WORKSHOPS

- The NDC should assure that the budgetary allocation is invested in the programs of the national strategy
- Conduct periodic studies on demand and supply trends and related activities
- The NDC should provide an annual estimation of the cost of the development of the strategy
- Update and harmonization of the legislation on drugs and complementary regulations
- Decentralization of the national strategy to the municipal governments
### SUPPLEMENTARY COOPERATION

| Decentralization of the national anti-drug strategy to local government | In Andean countries: Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela  
In some bordering municipalities of Brazil and Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay. |
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<td>Development of national observatories on drugs</td>
<td>Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Perú and República Dominicana.</td>
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<td>Organizational development of NDCs</td>
<td>Jamaica, Panama and República Dominicana.</td>
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### CONTINUITY OF CICAD COOPERATION AND NEED TO INCREMENT THE NATIONAL CO-FINANCING

**Strengthening of the national anti-drug system:**

- Improve technical capacity of NDC in the design of projects for cooperation and the creation of a database of projects to manage resources from national or international, private or public, cooperation.

- Update national strategy and its decentralization towards municipal governments

- Update / harmonize anti-drug legislation and supplementary regulations

- Strengthen coordination and international cooperation between the NDCs and the ministries of Foreign Affairs
EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

CICAD’s technical team integrated by:
• Franklin Zambrano, Project Manager
  • Ruth Villagran, consultant
  • Kléber Espinosa; consultant
  • Juliet M. Phillip, consultant
    • Miguel Escudero, OAS-CICAD Specialist
    • Federico Dafieno, OAS-CICAD Specialist
    • Romina Robalino, OAS-CICAD Specialist

We thank

The NDCs for their openness, support and assistance to the technical team for project execution
CICAD’s Executive Secretary for his confidence and the facilities provided
The cooperating countries who financed the project for technical assistance in 27 countries.