COPOLAD Program
Using evidence as the basis for making informed decisions in the drug policy area

Progress with Component 2:
Consolidation of National Observatories
Importance of Component 2 (Consolidation of National Observatories) to strengthen the evidence of effectiveness in the drug policy area:

**Will assist in:**

- Reach EU–LA consensus on indicators to be gathered
- Strengthen exchanges of experiences and training among observatories
- Strengthen the presence of powerful and sustainable information systems
- Produce EU–LA comparative studies to facilitate the making of informed decisions on the most effective policies

**FIRST-YEAR OBJECTIVES FOR COPOLAD: COMPONENT 2**

- Identify a minimum set of indicators to be agreed on, to allow:
  - LA–EU comparisons
  - Sharing of quality information for decision making
- Identify training needs at the observatories and offer professional training on information system management to respond to those needs.
- Propose a model for thematic twinnings between groups of LA and EU observatories: strengthen those observatories that are still at the earliest stages.
Analyze the prevailing situation in the countries with Rapid Alert Systems

Identify:

- research groups in LA and EU
- current main lines of work
- main needs and existing opportunities for cooperation

Progress with Component 2 (1st year: May 2011 – April 2012)
Initial Component 2 Coordination Meeting.
Buenos Aires, 16-17 May 2011

Progress with Component 2 (1st year: May 2011 – April 2012)

- **Activity 2.2.1:** Review of indicators collected by the different agencies working in the area
  
  *Leader: Argentina*

  - Three documents are available:
    1. Supply control indicators
    2. Demand control indicators
    3. Definition of basic indicators

  - Drafting of summary document pending

- **Activity 2.2.2:** Design of a structured form on characteristics, needs and shortcomings in LA’s information systems.

  *Leader: Uruguay*

  - Questionnaire prepared; distribution pending

- **Activity 2.2.3:** Preparation of the 1st working meeting and consensus on, methods, indicators, and protocols.

  *Leader: Colombia*

  - Planned to take place in Colombia, second quarter of 2012
Progress with Component 2 (1st year: May 2011 – April 2012)

- **Activity 2.4.1:** Study on unmet training needs in the area of information systems  
  **Leader:** Argentina
  
  Pending results of 2.2.1 and 2.2.2

- **Activities 2.5.1 to 2.5.3:** Twinnings between drugs observatories.  
  **Leader:** Portugal
  
  Under development 2.5.1: “Definition of Thematic Twinnings Model,” in collaboration with EMCDDA and OID

Progress with Component 2 (1st year: May 2011 – April 2012)

- **Activity 2.6.1:** Analysis of the current situation of Rapid Alert Systems (RASs).  
  **Leader:** Brazil
  
  Questionnaire prepared; distribution to observatories underway

- **Activity 2.6.2:** Report on current situation of RASs.  
  **Leader:** Brazil
  
  Pending results of previous activity

- **Activity 2.6.3:** Working session on RASs.  
  **Leader:** Brazil
  
  Held in conjunction with the indicator consensus meeting (2.2.3)
Progress with Component 2 (1st year: May 2011 – April 2012)

- **Activity 2.7. 1:** Production and distribution of a questionnaire on research groups and networks.
  - **Leader:** Spain
  - Questionnaire prepared and distributed

- **Activity 2.7. 2:** Report on research groups and networks existing in LA and EU.
  - **Leader:** Spain
  - Pending results of previous activity.

These activities are intended to produce a map of research teams and topics of interest, and to build contacts and synergies, over the coming two years.

**CONCLUSIONS**

As of the end of October, **Component 2** has:
- Completed: 9% of activities
- Underway: 36% of activities
- At initial phase: 18% of activities
- Not started: 36% of activities

Prospects are promising, although the timing is tight.

We are at a complex stage in implementation, because of the agreed-on priority of evaluating needs before launching interventions.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION