



17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
United States of America

Organization of American States

P. 202.458.3000
www.oas.org

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE
CONTROL COMMISSION
CICAD

Secretariat for Multidimensional Security

FIFTY-FIRST REGULAR SESSION
May 9 - 11, 2012
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.51
CICAD/doc.1960/12
9 May 2012
Original: Español

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS AND PUBLIC POLICIES
LIC. FABIÁN CHIOSSO
RIOD, ARGENTINA

51st Regular Session CICAD / OAS

Washington, D.C. - May 9 - 11, 2012



“Civil Society Organizations and Public Policies”



Ibero-American Network of NGOs that Address Drug Dependencies (Red Iberoamericana de Ong's que trabajan en Drogodependencias – RIOD)

Lic. Fabián Chiosso
President of FONGA - ARGENTINA

“Civil Society Organizations and Public Policies”

RIOD

**Red Iberoamericana de Ong's que Trabajan en
Drogodependencias
(Ibero-American Network of NGOs that Address
Drug Dependencies)**



Lic. Fabián Chiosso – Argentina
President of FONGA - ARGENTINA

Composition of RIOD

- 50 Non-Governmental Organizations
- 3 Federations: UNAD (Spain), FLACT (Latin America), FONGA (Argentina)
- Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia , El Salvador, Spain, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Uruguay, Venezuela.

1. What is the role of NGOs in the prevention and treatment of addictions and how can they facilitate a relationship with government agencies?

- Civil Society exists in all of the countries included in RIOD, which is very important in the field of prevention and treatment for addictions, and provides for greater theoretical, technical, practical experience.
- Not only as executors (that maintain the opening) but also as strategic partners of States: they are highly qualified actors that should participate in the design, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of public policies.

2. Are there better practices that can be used in the relationship between Civil Society and States?

- Clarifying the roles of each actor:
 - The State is the fundamental actor in the creation and practice of public policy; it organizes participation, establishes the scope of the roles of Civil Society and other social actors involved; assigns resources; defines the general meaning of public policies.
 - Civil Society coordinates the technical and administrative requests of the State with dynamic social processes.
- The strategically plan the use of every component of the State/Universities/Civil Society. (Policies of the State)
- Determine the timeline and strategic issues (planning, execution, resources) and the objectives to be achieved in each area.

- Areas of debate and the development of proposals from technical and administrative points of view;
- Research on specific topics (critical problems, intervention strategies, suitable institutional designs, program evaluations, etc.)
- Strategic Partners :
 - Seeking resources from international agencies;
 - The development of projects and programs

3. How to strengthen the position of Civil Society and their work on addictions? What is the role of networks in facilitating this process?

- Institutional management tools (administration, strategic planning, securing resources, etc.);
- Exchange of scientific information and practical experience;
- Development and training of human resources regarding frameworks, quality standards and best practices, and ethics codes;
- The joint development of work and evaluation strategies (experiences of Spain (evaluation) and Argentina (regional work));

- In this way, networks have a strategic role because they allow for:
 - Coordinated efforts and establish synergy between organizations;
 - Enhance learning processes;
 - Encourage increasing the presence Civil Society among governments and their impact on public policies;
 - Facilitate the identification of qualified and valid representative partners;

4. What other actors should be a part of public policy development besides Civil Society groups?

- Government agencies - Education, Labor, and Production;
- Universities;
- Local social organizations that work on social issues;

Conclusion.

- There a number of Civil Society groups that work in the field of prevention and treatment of addictions. With different degrees of coordination and organization in them, between them, and with parts of State governments.
- It necessary to work on increasing the coordination of these groups. The objective should be to develop organic relationships in order to work on institution strengthening, continuing education/training, the definition of shared standards of quality, and the appropriate use of resources.
- The inclusion of academia should be promoted in the development of joint research programs on critical issues for the design and evaluation of intervention strategies.

Thank you !!

RIOD

Red Iberoamericana de Ong's que Trabajan en
Drogodependencias
(Ibero-American Network of NGOs that Address Drug Dependencies)
www.riod.org



Lic. Fabián Chiosso – Argentina
President of FONGA
fabian@fonga.org.ar