Group 2 Presentation: Dominica, Trinidad and Tobago, Saint Lucia and Haiti

Policy development on prevention of drug abuse

Situation Analysis

- Survey data –secondary school survey- shows a high prevalence of alcohol use among the countries. There appears to be an increase in the last ten to fifteen years.

- It appears to be associated with the increase effectiveness of advertising and other inducement to consume alcohol

- The use of alcohol by younger age groups has been increasing

- Regional governments are concerned about the consequences for education and psycho social development and the future productivity of the workforce

- In this regards, the Governments are announcing its prevention policy

Situation Analysis (Cont'd)

- The policy will encourage development of critical thinking skills and decisions making skills among student population
- Policy will also orient students to perception of self protection and wellness
- It will provide fiscal incentive to decrease the alcohol content in beverage

Situation Analysis (Cont'd)

- The policy aims to disconnect alcohol from its associations with healthy lifestyle
- It will promote the development of alcohol watch groups
- It will also promotes discussion using participatory methodology including popular theatre to facilitate examination of the impact and consequences

Components of Prevention Policy

- AdS: Reduce exposure to secondary school population by limiting ad campaigns for alcohol by the type, frequency, time shown, the messages, the places displayed
- Training of teachers and persons delivering prevention messages, life skills, etc. to students
- Treatment options for the tertiary
- Age appropriate for dissemination prevention messages

Similarities

- Age of first use is 10 to 14
- Drugs most common Marihuana, alcohol and tobacco.
- Perception harm and risk is the same
  - When the perceive risk is lower the use (prevalence) increases
- No alcohol policies

Similarities (cont'd)

- ⊙ Trinidad and Tobago (from 2013 data)
  - › Age of first use: 12.4 for tobacco, 12.2 for alcohol, 13.6 for marihuana
  - › Lifetime prevalence: 16.25% of marihuana

- ⊙ Saint Lucia (from 2013)
  - › Age of first use : approximately 12 for alcohol, tobacco and marihuana
  - › Lifetime prevalence of marihuana : 25% +

- ⊙ Haiti (from 2009)
  - › Age of first use: Alcohol : 13.8, Marihuana, 14.8 and tobacco (14.2)
  - › Lowest rate of marihuana : 2.2%
- ⊙ Dominica (from 2011)
  - › Age of use: 12 to 13 for the three drugs
  - › Highest rate marihuana

Unique characteristics

- Haiti:
  - Lowest rate of marihuana use
  - Highest rate of Medical drugs without prescription use (sedative and stimulants)
  - Inhalants among street children
  - "Chicha"
- Saint Lucia:
  - Higher prevalence of alcohol and Marihuana

Unique characteristics (cont'd)

- Saint Lucia:
  - No enforcement liquor license
  - Plenty of unlincenses sell of alcohol
  - The places where alcohol is sold (homes, side of the streets,…)
  - Children lunch boxes "shandy"
- Dominica:
  - Different type of liquor licenses