

SIXTY-SECOND REGULAR SESSION
December 13 - 15 , 2017
Washington, D.C.

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.62
CICAD/doc.2345/17
12 December 2017
Original: English

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION – A CARIBBEAN PERSPECTIVE

A Comprehensive Approach to Drug Demand Reduction – A Caribbean Perspective

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The Americas



Our Geography

In this Hemisphere most of our countries are separated by water, and there are four (4) Official Languages. This presents logistical challenges.



Our Situations

Like all Member States in the OAS our situations vary based on:

- Governance – British colonies still very traditional
- Internal systems – Not as developed and effective as we would like
- Values – Vary
- Culture – Many different cultures
- Drug Control Laws – Highly punitive, although currently being reviewed in many countries
- Challenges – Are many – Equitable education, drug use, trafficking, murders, contracting economies, etc.

It is NOT all Sun, Sea, Sand, Rum and Carnival!!!

Our Spirit – Unbroken!!!! We continue to work toward strengthening our countries



**Regional Governance Through the CARICOM Secretariat:
Heads of Government
Community Council**

Supported by:

COHSOD - Council for Human and Social Development

- Drug Demand Reduction incorporated in this area

CONSLE – Council for Security and Law Enforcement

COFCOR - Council for Foreign and Community Relations

COTED - Council for Trade and Economic Development

COFAB - Council for Finance and Planning



Developing a comprehensive approach to Demand Reduction- Laying the foundation



1994 – Barbados Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

- Barbados Plan of Action -1996 contained a Demand Reduction Section that encouraged a regional approach, with support from Hemispheric and International organisations



CARICOM – Increased its focus on Demand Reduction

- 2002-2003 - Began discussions on the development of a Regional Demand Reduction Strategy
- 2003 - Added a position which incorporated this area as a primary responsibility



CICAD – Assisted with the development of National Drug Commissions and National Plans

- Most Commissions in the Region are Demand Reduction focused
- Began discussion on an On-Line Training programme with UWI



EU – Granted funding through 9th European Development Fund (9th EDF)



Building the Comprehensive Approach

Approval by the CARICOM Heads of Government of the Regional Strategy on Drug Demand Reduction

CARICOM capacity building for Member States in:

- Development of National Plans
- Prevention programmes – Use of culture,

CICAD

- Completion and launch of the Online Certificate Programme in Drug Demand Reduction
- Introduction of the Universities programme in collaboration with CAMH
- MEM
- OID - School Surveys

CARICOM and CICAD – Standards of Care Document

Consolidating the gains - PROCER



Introduced to Caribbean Member States in 2011

First PROCER initiative to take a regional approach to ensure harmonization of human resources throughout the region

Ensured engagement at the Political, Policy and Operational level

- CARICOM, National Drug Commissions, Treatment Providers – Government and Civil Society, Tertiary and Other Educational institutions – University of the West Indies and St. George's University

Agreement on the formation of an Advisory Council to guide the implementation of the project

Assessments have been undertaken

Exams developed, administered and marked by UWI, Mona

Certificates issued by UWI and CICAD

Over four hundred persons (400) trained between Prevention and Treatment

PROCCER – Adolescent Intervention



Content developed and reviewed 2014

Pilot training Jamaican and Trinidad and Tobago – January and September 2015 respectively – Seventy Four (74) persons trained

Sensitisation to the Executive of the *Caribbean Association of Psychologist*

Training conducted at the *International Society of Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Professionals* 2015 and 2017 – A total of Sixty Three (63) persons trained – 2015 – Reps of Fourteen (14) Countries; 2017 – Reps Nine (9) Caribbean states and the CARICOM Secretariat and Six (6) other countries.

Sensitisation on the content delivered to School Social Workers of the Ministry of Education, and workers in Children's homes and Juvenile detention facilities 2015-2016 – A total of Sixty Five (65) persons sensitized

Additional Modules developed on – Trauma and trauma involved care, Gangs and Marijuana (To be reviewed and finalised)

Presentation to the Demand Reduction Expert Group and the Regional Workshop on Drug Information Networks – 2017

Information shared at DTC Workshop September 2017

UWI developed and administered an exam for the programme



Increasing International Partners

CARICOM/ EU funded work programme under the 10th EDF

- Implementation of PROCER in two (2) Member States
- Two (2) Sub-regional workshops on Adolescent Interventions
- Support for adult and children's Drug treatment Courts

Opportunity to work with the COPOLAD II Project to advance:

- Quality Criteria and Standards of Care – Collaboration between CARICOM, CICAD and COPOLAD
- Early Warning Signals that will indicate drugs of choice

Opportunity to work with the Missions represented in the various member states in a number of areas

As we soar



We look forward to:

Ongoing development of the PROCCER

- Update and Expansion of content with increased opportunities for delivery

PROCCER Adolescent Intervention

- Expansion of content and increased opportunities for delivery

Increased information on UTC and UPC

Opportunities for ongoing Internal and External collaboration

Internal:

- OID – Household Surveys
- Drug Treatment Courts – Adult and Children
- Results of the 7th Round of the MEM

External:

- Ongoing collaboration with CARICOM and COPOLAD
- Joint meeting planned in March on Standards of Care



Executive Secretariat of CICAD

- Successive Executive Secretaries and Ambassador Namm
- Angela Crowdy
- Alexandra Hill and the Demand Reduction Team
- The OID Team
- The MEM team

CARICOM Secretariat

- Mrs. Beverly Reynolds and the team at the CARICOM Secretariat

The Team at the INL both Washington based and in Member States

- Brian Morales and all the INL officers who support this work

The COPOLAD II team

- Teresa Salvadore and her team

Regional Governments and National Commissions

- All who make it possible for the staff to access opportunities

From all of us in the Caribbean....



**Thank
You!!!**

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