EXPERT GROUP ON DEMAND REDUCTION
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By

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Expert Group on Demand Reduction
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Chair: Beth Pieterson
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Overview

Canada assumed chairmanship in the fall/winter of 2005.

During the 2\textsuperscript{nd} and 3\textsuperscript{rd} evaluation rounds of the MEM, 22 recommendations were issued pertaining to the need to evaluate prevention programs.

Capacity issues (both financial andtechnical) were identified as primary reasons for the lack of progress in this area.

In consultation with CICAD and representatives of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction, the development of Member States’ evaluation capacity in the area of prevention was selected as the focus during Canada’s tenure as chair.
Logic Model

WHAT? (Ottawa)

- Develop an Evaluation Framework
- Evaluation Framework including logic model and performance measurement strategy
- Enhanced agreement on the outcomes and performance indicators for measuring impacts

HOW? (Bogotá)

- Establish a Guide and Standardized Instruments
- Guide for implementation of the framework and utilization of the instruments & the instruments
- Improved understanding of how to best utilize the framework in the evaluation of prevention programs
- Increased access to standardized valid and reliable instruments to measure key, agreed upon outcomes

Outputs

- Improved capacity to evaluate prevention programs
- Improved understanding of what works and what doesn’t

Activities

- Create Training Opportunities
- Train-the-trainer workshops for representatives from over 15 Caribbean countries
- Enhanced understanding of how to best evaluate existing and emerging programs

Outcomes

- Improved impacts in preventing substance use and abuse

WHAT ? (Ottawa)
Key Successes

Reached an agreement on realistic and measurable outcomes that can be used by all Member States to report on prevention outcomes.

Built upon the evaluation expertise of Task Force members from the Hemisphere and Europe.

Enhanced the capacity of members of the Expert Group on Demand Reduction in the area of evaluating prevention programs.

Have established an overall framework and process for utilization for broader implementation within the Hemisphere.
Key Challenges

Experienced some difficulty in determining the real and potential scope for implementation of the framework.

Similar challenges experienced when attempting to define the specific nature of the youth prevention programs (universal, selected, indicated) that could best make use of the standardized instruments.

Need to further refine and retest (validate) some of the instrument in terms of potential language and cultural issues.
Next Steps

Finalization of the guide and draft instruments by Task Force members based on feedback provided by the Expert Group.

Integration of the guide, evaluation framework, and standardized instruments into one user-friendly document that will be distributed to Member States and posted on the CICAD website.

Pilot test of framework and instruments to be undertaken by Peru using Lions Club prevention program.

Complete current commitment by CICAD to provide Train-the-Trainer workshop to interested Member States in Latin America.