New Drug Trends in the Hemisphere

Santa Marta, Colombia, November 2007
Program

- General Aspects,
- Francisco Cumsille, CICAD/OEA
- Cocaine, its derivatives and laboratories
  - Hernán Bernal, DNE/Colombia
- Community Epidemiology Work Group, CEWG.
  - James Hall, CEWG
- Commission Debate
- CICAD confronting new trends,
  - James Mack, SE/CICAD

Presentation Summary

- Drug Use Trends and Problematic Use,
- Migration
- Trafficking
- Information Systems
# Drug Use Trends and Problematic Consumption

## World Wide Use

Extent of drug use (annual prevalence*) estimates 2005/6 (or latest year available)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Cannabis</th>
<th>Amphetamine-type stimulants</th>
<th>Cocaine</th>
<th>Opiates</th>
<th>of which heroin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Amphetamines</td>
<td>Ecstasy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(million people)</td>
<td>158.8</td>
<td>24.9</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>14.3</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in % of global population age 15-64</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fuente: Informe Naciones Unidas, 2007
Illegal drug use at the global level (2005/2006)

- Total world population: 6.475 million people
- World population age 15-64: 4.177 million people (100%*)
- Non-drug using population age 15-64: 3.977 million people (95.2%*)
- Annual prevalence of drug use: 200 million people (4.8%*)
- Monthly prevalence of drug use: 110 million people (2.6%*)
- Problem drug use: age 15-64: 25 million people (0.6%*)

* in percent of population age 15-64


---

Drug Users vs Drug Used

- **Drug Users**
  - 75-80% Users
  - 20%-25% Users
  - Occasional Abuse

- **Drug Used**
  - 20%
  - 80%

Source: Kleiman "Controlling Drug use and crime with testing, sanctions and treatment"
Problematic Users

- Problems in the drug users environment consumidor, (family, work/study)

- Health Situation
  - Treatment, rehabilitation and reinsertion

Problematic Users

- Public security.
  - Drugs-crime
    - Crime committed under the influence of drugs
    - Crime in order to obtain money for drugs
    - Success in treatment, rehabilitation, and reinsertion, particularly in the population of youth with criminal behavior, reduces delinquency
Problematic Users

- These users are those who maintain a key part of the drug “business”.

- Reducing the number of problematic users, should have a large impact on the reduction of demand for drugs.

World Wide Trends vs. the Trends in Our Countries

Trends in Our Countries

- **United States** (SAMSHA): Stabilization of Marihuana and Cocaine use, with a reduction among the 12-17 year age group
- **Canada** (CAS): Increase in Marijuana and Cocaine
- **Uruguay**: Increase in marihuana, cocaine and coca paste, ecstasy use appearing.
- **Mexico**: Increase in Marijuana and Cocaine
- **Chile** (CONACE): Stabilization of cocaine use and coca paste and increase in marijuana in specific groups (youth of high socioeconomic status)
- **Argentina** (SEDRONAR): Increasing trend in a variety of illegal drugs and high level of poly-drug use.
Changes in Drug Use Figures

• What does that mean?

• Very important stopping and reducing the increase in use,

• Keep in mind that stabilizing drug use, from the point of view of PERCENTAGE of users, could imply an increase in the NUMBER of users: organic increase in population, changes in the rural/urban relationship.

• Therefore, demand for drugs might increase.
MIGRATION

Migration Process

- Latino/Caribbean population to USA
- Latino population to Europa (Spain)
- Latino population to other Latin American Countries (Nicaragua-Costa Rica)
- Internal Migration: Urbanization
Student Registers (minorities), Oregon

- Hispanic (+211%)
- African American (+37%)
- American Indian (+27%)
- Asian/Pacific Islander (+64%)
- White (-10%)


National Hispanic Science Network on drugs (NHSN) USA

- NIDA project
- Objective: study the drug use situation among Hispanics in the United States
Drug Use Among Latinos in the USA

- Cohort studies in the USA, conclude that alcohol and drug consumption are significantly lower among Latinos initially after migration.
- After 10 years, consumption increases significantly, to similar levels as the non-Latino population

Migration Process

Past Year Marijuana Use 12 to 17 years

- Latinos in USA (SAMHSA, 2006):
  - 12.7% among males
  - 11.9% among females
- Mexico (2002)
  - 1.2%
- Use in Central America:
  - Less than 4%.
Migration Process

• Dominican Republic:
  – New cases in treatment centers for heroin: 8%-9% of total new admissions.

• New market generated
• Heroin seizures:
  – 122 kg in 2005, 258 kg in 2006 (110% increase)

TRAFFICKING, SUPPLY AND SEIZURES
Drug Trafficking Trends

- Increase in use of internet to facilitate trafficking of illicit drugs
- Increase in the use of commercial licit transport to transport illicit drugs, cargo ships, airplanes.
- Decentralization of cocaine laboratories (coca paste, chlorhidate) to other countries

Trafficking Trends

- Increasingly, cocaine is being exchanged for arms, synthetic drugs and high-potency hydroponic marijuana.
- Increase in synthetic drugs, such as methamphetamine, ecstasy, and other drugs in relation to the availability, traffic and local production.
- Narcotraffickers are constantly avoiding administrative controls at the borders to ensure the required chemicals and in extreme cases, produce their own substitutes
- New transit routes
- Increase of money seizures in cash in drug consumption countries as well as in producers and transit countries, mainly in US dollars and Euros.
CANNABIS SEIZURES IN THE AMERICAN CONTINENT (Source: MEM)

COCAINE SEIZURES IN THE AMERICAN CONTINENT (Source: MEM)
INFORMATION SYSTEMS: AN EXAMPLE
Lessons Learned

- Dissemination of a drug problem
- Need to have early alert systems.
- Relationship between information on Supply and Demand