THE DRUG USE SITUATION IN THE HEMISPHERE
BY FRANCISCO CUMSILLE
The Drug Use Situation in the Hemisphere

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OID/CICAD
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PROGRAMA

– CONTEXT
– DRUG USE
  • BY DRUG
– TRENDS
– FUTURE CHALLENGES
Large Degree of Diversity

- **POPULATION**
  - Less than 100 thousand inhabitants
  - More than 100 million inhabitants

- **WEALTH (Per capita GDP)**
  - Above US$35 thousand
  - Below US$4 thousand

- **HUMAN DEVELOPMENT INDEX**
  - Above 0.95
  - Below 0.7

- **INEQUALITY (GINI INDEX, %)**
  - Above 55 (poor distribution)
  - Below 46 (moderate distribution)
DRUG USE

LARGE DEGREE OF DIVERSITY

– DIFFERENCES ACROSS COUNTRIES
  • By drug

– WITHIN COUNTRIES
  • By drug
• Most consumed illicit drug worldwide.
• 143-190* million people (15 to 64 years) consumed during the past year (3.3%-4.4%).
• Difficult to establish production of the drug with precision.
• Cultivated in more than 170 countries

## Past Year Prevalence, 15-64 years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Prevalence</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td><strong>3.3%-4.4%</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>&lt;1%-14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td><strong>5.3%</strong></td>
<td>&lt;1%-15%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

North America, 10.5%
Central America, 2.4%
Caribbean, 4.3%-6.7%
South America, 3.4%
Number of who used in the past year, 15-64 años

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>World</td>
<td>143-190 mill.</td>
<td>Rango</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Americas</td>
<td>42 mill.</td>
<td>22%-29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>28 mill.</td>
<td>15%-20%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

75% of marijuana users are in North America
Current Use of Marijuana and Tobacco

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Marijuana</th>
<th>Cigarettes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Antigua &amp; Barbuda</td>
<td>8.1</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>3.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominica</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grenada</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>4.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guyana</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>7.1</td>
<td>4.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Kitts and Nevis</td>
<td>6.9</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Lucia</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Vincent &amp; the Grenadines</td>
<td>5.8</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suriname</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trinidad &amp; Tobago</td>
<td>2.7</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Concentration of THC (%)
Admission to Treatment Centers

Steady Increase in Treatment Admissions with Marijuana as the Primary Substance of Abuse Since 1994

Number of Admissions (in Thousands)

Source: SAMHSA, Treatment Episode Data Set (TEDS) Highlights - 2006 (January 2008); data for 1994 and 1995 are from the 2004 and 2005 TEDS reports, respectively.

Source: SAMHSA, Drug Abuse Warning Network.
**COCAIN USE**

- **WORLD**: 16 to 20 million persons (at least once during the past year)
  - PAST YEAR PREVALENCE = 0.4% – 0.5%

- **EUROPE**: 4.3 to 4.6 million. **Approx=25%**
  - PAST YEAR PREVALENCE = 0.8% (0.1%-3%)

- **AMERICA**: 9.4 to 9.6 million. **APROX=53%**
  - PAST YEAR PREVALENCE = 1.6% (0.1%-2.8%)

UNODC, World Drug Report, 2009
• AMONG THE TOTAL COCAINE USERS IN THE HEMISPHERE
  – 75% in North America
  – 24% in South America
  – 1% in Central America and the Caribbean

UNODC, World Drug Report, 2009
• Also, high levels of use at the secondary school (high school) level

• Past Year Prevalence above 3% in the United States, Canada and Uruguay.
Cocaine, Caribbean: past year prevalence, secondary school

Range = 0.2% - 2.8%

Average South America

Country: Antigua, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, St. Kitts, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Suriname, Trinidad
Cocaine: Signs of Dependence

Argentina: 45.2
Chile: 29.3
Ecuador: 46.1
Perú: 41.6
Uruguay: 18.9
Open Question

• What proportion recognize the problem and access treatment?

• 5%?, 10%?, 15%? More?, Less?.....

• How does this figure compare with the availability of treatment?
Cocaine Base/Coca Paste/ Basuco/ Crack

• Cocaine Base/Coca Paste/ Basuco
  – ARGENTINA, CHILE, URUGUAY

• CRACK
  – MEXICO, CENTRAL AMERICA, CARIBBEAN
## Patients in Treatment: Examples

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Marij.</th>
<th>Cocaine</th>
<th>Crack</th>
<th>Pasta</th>
<th>Heroin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. Rica</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>592</td>
<td>1.773</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>1.168</td>
<td>1.723</td>
<td></td>
<td>4.495</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>725</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>282</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RD</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>998</td>
<td></td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Panama</td>
<td>236</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>480</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>5.668</td>
<td>3.948</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2.543</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VARIABILITY WITHIN COUNTRIES

• COCAINE
  – United States: 1.7%-3.4% (2004-2005)
  – Colombia: 0.1%-2.1% (2008)
  – Chile: 0.1%-2.3% (2006)

• MARIJUANA
  – United States: 8%-16.3%
  – Colombia: 0.1%-5.3%
  – Chile: 1.8%-8.5%
TRENDS

• MARIJUANA:
  – Increase in several countries, both at general population level as well as secondary school
  – Stabilization of trend in others, mainly among countries with high levels of use

• COCAINE:
  – Increase in several countries
  – Stabilization and decrease in some countries
FUTURE CHALLENGES

• HEROIN
• PHARMACEUTICALS
• INHALANTS
• ALCOHOL
• SYNTHETIC DRUGS
Canada: Ecstasy (MDMA) Adulteration

Users vs Drug used

Law of Pareto

Users

75-80% users

20%-25% users

Drug used

20%

80%

Occasional Abuse

Source: Kleiman “Controlling Drug use and crime with testing, sanctions and treatment”
THANK YOU

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INTER-AMERICAN OBSERVATORY ON DRUGS
CICAD-OEA