

## NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG STRATEGY

**D**ominica's National Master Plan 2000-2004 covers the areas of supply reduction, demand reduction, control measures, institutional framework and budget. However, it does not have an evaluation component. The lack of financial resources has been identified as one of the major constraints in combating the drug problem. In this regard, Dominica indicates that it has to depend on external financial resources to execute its national strategy.

The National Drug Council established in 1990 by the Drug Prevention and Misuse Act is the central coordinating authority for demand reduction activities and information. It is financed through the Health Ministry budget. The Dominica Police Force coordinates supply reduction and control measures, and the Dominica Customs Service, each with their individual budgets, support the Police Force in this activity. The Supreme Court and the Magistrate Courts have judicial responsibilities in drug matters, while the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has administrative responsibilities.

Dominica has ratified the United Nations Conventions of 1961, 1971 and 1988. In contrast, the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, and the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials have not been ratified.

Dominica reports that its principal drug control legislation, the Drug Prevention and Drug Abuse Act—which covers trafficking and forfeiture—is in accordance with the UN Conventions. Its Firearms Act #37 of 1990 provides for the seizure and forfeiture of firearms, ammunitions, explosives and other related materials.

Dominica does not have a system for the collection and maintenance of statistics and documents. It only has separate collections of documents for demand reduction and statistics for supply reduction and control measures.

## Recommendations

1. Incorporate a sustained evaluation system into all stages of the National Anti-Drug Master Plan (2000-2004) to permit the analysis, monitoring and interpretation of information on the processes, effects, and impact of interventions in demand and supply reduction and control measures.
2. Ratify the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, and the Inter-American

**Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials.**

3. **Develop and apply an integrated system for the collection and maintenance of statistics, within the framework of a national initiative and international cooperation.**

## **DEMAND REDUCTION**

**D**ominica has a National Demand Reduction Strategy and has indicated that some prevention programs are in place. However it was indicated that there are many areas in which no programs are available.

There is no information available as to whether or not the Government has adopted the United Nations Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action.

There is a national system of drug abuse prevention programs that targets school children, community leaders and out of school youth. In contrast, no programs exist for prisoners, prison officers, and street children, and there is no “drugs in the workplace” program.

There are no guidelines on minimum standards of care for drug treatment, and no treatment and rehabilitation services. There is no specialized training for professionals in drug abuse prevention and treatment.

There is no system in place for determining the extent of drug use in the general population.

Prevention programs have not been evaluated and no research has taken place in the prevention area. No data are available on the average age of first use of any illicit drug. The annual incidence of new drug users is not known.

No evaluations have been made due to the absence of treatment and rehabilitation programs.

## **Recommendations**

1. **Adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action.**

2. **Implement the demand reduction strategy.**
3. **Implement a system of data collection to determine the annual incidence, prevalence and trends in use and types of drug within the general population.**

## SUPPLY REDUCTION

**T**here are marginal cannabis crops in Dominica; the area planted and potential production have never been estimated. The crops are consumed locally and marketed illicitly on neighboring islands.

Dominica reports that there are entities for the control of the diversion of pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances, although these are not identified. Dominica also reports that it has a system for estimating legitimate annual needs for pharmaceuticals, but does not identify the entity responsible. It also reports that it has a system to oversee and regulate professions involved in the distribution and use of controlled pharmaceuticals, but does not report the entity responsible or how it operates.

Dominica reports that it only has mechanisms for national and international operational information exchanges for pharmaceuticals, but it does not describe the mechanism or agency, or the participating entities.

Dominican legislation establishes penal, civil, and administrative sanctions for the diversion of controlled chemical substances and pharmaceuticals. However, it should be emphasized that no reports on the application of these sanctions were presented for 1999.

The limited information provided by Dominica on its legal, regulatory, and institutional infrastructure for the control of chemical substances and pharmaceuticals makes it difficult to determine to what extent it has adapted such infrastructure on the basis of the Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere.

## Recommendations

1. **Develop and implement mechanisms to estimate the area in use for illicit crop cultivation.**
2. **Develop the legal and institutional infrastructure for the control of pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances.**

## CONTROL MEASURES

**D**ominica has entities responsible for the investigation and control of illicit drug trafficking. There is a mechanism for coordination, cooperation and timely information exchanges among national authorities (the Police Department). There is no centralized agency for international coordination, cooperation, and timely information exchanges in accordance with international agreements.

Although no data were provided on the number of annual drug seizure operations, Dominica reported that in 1999, there were seizures of cocaine salts, basuco, and cannabis plants and leaf, as presented below:

Drug Type	Quantity	
	Kgs.	Grams
Cocaine Salts	83	
Basuco (residues or impurities)		220
Cannabis plants	41,789	
Leaf Cannabis	192	

One hundred and forty-seven of the 178 persons arrested for drug trafficking offenses were charged and there were 75 convictions in 1999. Dominica made one request for international cooperation to investigate and prosecute drug traffickers under international agreements.

Dominica has adopted laws and regulations that define the manufacture and illicit trafficking of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials as an offense. In addition, Dominica has administrative control measures in place to prevent these offenses, and has authorized the freezing or seizure, and confiscation and forfeiture of firearms and related materials.

Dominica reports that there are mechanisms to maintain records by date, classification-description, and quantity of the importation, exportation, and transit of firearms, ammunition, explosives, and other related materials. In addition, mechanisms are in place to ensure the prior authorization of exports and imports.

Dominica has no mechanisms or authorities for international interagency information exchanges.

No data were provided on the number of persons charged or convicted in connection with the illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms, ammunition,

explosives, and other related materials. In addition, Dominica did not provide data on the number of seizure operations of firearms, ammunition, or explosives, although it did report that authorities seized two shotguns, one revolver, and ammunition related to illicit drug trafficking operations.

Dominica reported that it had identified the origin of these seized firearms and ammunition, but not the routing employed in their diversion.

Dominica made no requests for international cooperation to investigate and prosecute the illicit manufacture and trafficking of firearms and related materials under international agreements.

Asset laundering has been defined as an offense, and administrative controls are in place to prevent it. There are also laws and regulations authorizing the freezing, seizure, and forfeiture of assets related to asset laundering.

There is no central entity responsible for receiving, requesting, analyzing, and disseminating to the competent authorities information regarding financial transactions, or for national and international interagency operational information exchanges and collaboration. There are no laws or regulations requiring financial institutions to report suspicious transactions and to comply with other control measures, in accordance with national law. In addition, there is no mechanism for the management and disposal of assets seized and forfeited in connection with illicit drug trafficking.

Dominica reported that there were no arrests, prosecutions, or convictions for money laundering the 1999.

Dominica did not reply as to whether oversight bodies had applied administrative sanctions against financial institutions and others responsible, and no judicial sanctions were applied for failure to report suspicious transactions or failure to comply with legal requirements regarding asset-laundering control. No reply was given as to whether the country had made requests for international cooperation to investigate and prosecute money laundering in 1999.

## Recommendations

1. **Strengthen interagency coordination at the national level to investigate, control, and/or eliminate illicit drug trafficking.**
2. **Establish a centralized agency for coordination, cooperation, and timely international information exchanges, in accordance with international agreements.**

3. Establish a central control entity responsible for receiving, requesting, analyzing, and disseminating information on financial transactions to the competent authorities.
4. Adopt laws and regulations requiring financial institutions to report suspicious transactions and to comply with other control measures.
5. Establish mechanisms to manage and employ assets seized and forfeited in connection with illicit drug trafficking.

## HUMAN, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC COST OF DRUGS

**E**stimating the human, social and economic cost of the drug problem in all of its manifestations constitutes a complex process. This information is relevant to each country's understanding of the magnitude of the drug problem. This would enable each country to appreciate the direct and indirect cost in proportion to their Gross National Product or national annual budget. Because many countries have difficulty in providing these estimates, CICAD is proposing a hemispheric-wide program involving training and technical assistance, which should assist the country in its effort in confronting the drug problem and fulfilling this indicator's requirements.

### Recommendation

1. Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic cost of the drug problem.

## SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

**C**ICAD recommends that Dominica's anti-drug efforts be strengthened by addressing the following issues:

1. Incorporate a sustained evaluation system into all stages of the National Anti-Drug Master Plan (2000-2004) to permit the analysis, monitoring and interpretation of information on the processes, effects, and impact of interventions in demand and supply reduction and control measures.
2. Ratify the Inter-American Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, and the Inter-American Convention Against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials.
3. Develop and apply an integrated system for the collection and maintenance of statistics, within the framework of a national initiative and international cooperation.
4. Adopt the United Nations Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction and its Plan of Action.
5. Implement the demand reduction strategy.
6. Implement a system of data collection to determine the annual incidence, prevalence and trends in use and types of drug within the general population.
7. Develop and implement mechanisms to estimate the area in use for illicit crop cultivation.
8. Develop the legal and institutional infrastructure for the control of pharmaceuticals and controlled chemical substances.
9. Strengthen interagency coordination at the national level to investigate, control, and/or eliminate illicit drug trafficking.
10. Establish a centralized agency for coordination, cooperation, and timely international information exchanges, in accordance with international agreements.
11. Establish a central control entity responsible for receiving, requesting, analyzing, and disseminating information on financial transactions to the competent authorities.

12. **Adopt laws and regulations requiring financial institutions to report suspicious transactions and to comply with other control measures.**
13. **Establish mechanisms to manage and employ assets seized and forfeited in connection with illicit drug trafficking.**
14. **Develop the capacity to estimate the human, social, and economic cost of the drug problem.**