

Establishing a Data Base

The Practical Side

More questions than answers

- Do you really need to do this?
- What information do you need?
- Do you know where to get it?
- What is your relationship with the source?
- How should the source be approached – Top down? Bottom –up?
- How can you get the data that you need?
- How often should it be collected?
- What format should be used?

Help !!!!!!!!!!!!!



CICAD to the Rescue





- Sensitization Workshop held in 2002 with a wide cross section of agencies
- Interest established and “buy –in” achieved .

We are on our way –



Answers to the questions

- Do you really need to do this? - **YES**
- What information do you need? – **Info on all areas of the drug problem and factors that influence it.**
- Do you know where to get it? – **Identify the responsible agencies**
- What is your relationship with the source? –
- **Some good-** 
- **Some not so good -** 
- **Some we are meeting for the first time**

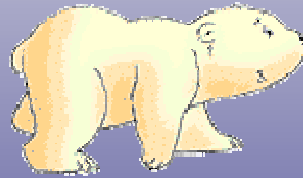


Answers Cont'd

- How should the source be approached – **Top down? Bottom –up? – Combination of both?**
- How can you get the data that you need? – **Justify and Ask**
- How often should it be collected? – **To be determined – Monthly, Quarterly, Bi-Annually**
- What format should be used? – **A standardized one**

The Journey Begins

“ The journey of a thousand miles, begins with the first step”



Why re-invent the wheel

- Work with what already exists – CICAD's systems
- CICDAT as the data base for collecting Supply Side data
- SIDUC for Demand Side data

Who is your target Group ?

- Identify which agencies are needed – A good place to start is with agencies that contribute to the MEM
- Which agency is the best source for the data you need
- Learn to speak their language – or at least have an interpreter
- Seek to find out if they are collecting data and in what format

What data does your Partner agencies need?

- Easier to get buy in if you meet their needs first – what are the reports they need to produce on an ongoing basis
- Develop a data capture form and discuss – even for agencies already collecting data
- Identify what you need and include in the form
- Ensure that meeting your needs does not mean increased work for the contributing agencies -

Identifying the data required

- Using the data required for the MEM is a good starting point – Police as a Primary Source
- Data from Organized Crime Narcotics and Firearm Bureau (OCNFB) –
- Arrests – Drugs – Identify Drugs; identify charge - possession, trafficking
- Seizures – amount and unit of measure
- Eradication
- Develop connecting issues – Firearms, Demand Reduction issues – Public education activities

What are we collecting?

- Standard Demographic data – Age, Gender, Occupation, Nationality
- Arrests
- Seizures
- Eradication
- Juveniles incarcerated
- Adults incarcerated
- Deportees
- Extraditions
- Forensic information – Accidents, suicides, Homicides
- Demand Reduction Activities – Education outreach etc

Making the Connections

- Relevance of other issues to the drug problem
- Brining the agencies together- Police and other supply side agencies; Demand Reduction; Immigration; UWI; Prisons; NGO community

Working with existing data collection systems

- Examine the system that exists
- Does it have the information you need?
- How can they give you what you need with the least disruption?
- Are there additional areas you can suggest that will benefit them?

Getting what you need

**Develop appropriate queries –
You can only get what you
want if you know how to ask
for it !!!**

What happens now?

- This is NOT a static process
- Always changing and information needs have to be evaluated and addressed
- Keep open and ongoing dialogue with your partner agencies
- ALWAYS put their needs first & balance your needs alongside theirs

BE OPEN !!!!

**BE OPEN to feedback – no
matter what form it takes.**

YOU WILL GROW !!!!!!!