

2a COPOLAD Annual Conference: Use of the Internet for the illicit sale of drugs and new psychoactive substances: challenges for their approach through coordinated and effective policies



Component 1: Consolidation of National Observatories Activities and Results expected for the second year of the Program (2017-2018)

CONSORTIUM



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Results Expected

- Increased the number of CELAC countries having a National Drug Observatory (NDO) provided with a competent, sustainable and stable Focal Point.
- Increased the number of CELAC countries having established a national Early Warning Systems (EWS), by adopting sustainable information-sharing agreements between NAs, NDOs and other stakeholders, which can provide key and continuous information to effectively deal with threats related with new psychoactive drugs. .
- Increased the number of CELAC NDOs that have adopted and maintain the processes and tools necessary for longitudinal registering and monitoring key and comparable indicators needed for evidence-based policy making in relation to drugs.
- Increased the number of CELAC countries that have enhanced their reporting capacity, by mapping new threats or by producing their first country report on the drugs situation.



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Activities and tasks foreseen for 2017-2018

- **Act. 1.1: Mapping the situation on NODs: Follow-up/Baseline study (2011-2016), led by Argentina y Uruguay**
- **Act. 1.2: 1° Annual Meeting of NODs in Kingston, Jamaica (5-9 December, 2016):**
 - Presentation of Report: **“Mapping the Situation of NODs: Baseline and Follow-up (2011-2016) Studies in Latin American and Caribbean Countries”**
 - Definition of lines of actions and Work Groups according to the needs and interest expressed by the countries. Four WG was conformed:
- Act. 1.3: Setting-up national Early Warning Systems (EWS) in interested CELAC countries.
- Act. 1.4: Design studies to evaluate and validate monitoring instruments for indicators of “problematic use” of drugs. .
- Act. 1.5: Enhancing the capacity of NDO to elaborate and disseminate a Country Report on drugsAct.
- 1.6: Developing methodologies for a better understanding of new problems or threats.

Act. 1.3: Setting-up national Early Warning Systems (EWS) in interested CELAC countries.

Leader Countries and European referent country:

Colombia y Uruguay – Portugal / Trinidad and Tobago – Czech Republic

Participants countries: Argentina, Brasil, Chile, Ecuador, Perú, Bahamas, Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago

General objective: To contribute to improve the response of the CELAC countries towards the threat of new psychoactive substances (NPS) and/or new uses of substances, based on the implementation and/or strengthening of the Early Warning Systems (EWS) in the National Drugs Observatories in cooperation with other bodies and actors of the CELAC countries.

Specific Objectives:

- To identify the current state of the National Drugs Observatories regarding the implementation of Early Warning Systems.
- To strengthen the existing Early Warning Systems in the CELAC
- Elaboration of a guide to orientate the development of Early Warning Systems.
- To accompany the countries in the design and launch of the Early Warning Systems: identification of actors, structuring of the system, definition of pathways and protocols.
- To promote chemical characterisation processes of new substances and of drugs defined as relevant in the national contexts, as part of the EWSs.
- To form a Regional Network of EWSs for the rapid exchange of alerts and information and constant methodological support.

Act. 1.3: Activities foreseen 2017-2018

- Study of the characteristics and reach of the existing EWSs
- 1st Work Meeting of the Advisory and decision-making level and of the Expert Group of the Design Level (July 2017. Costa Rica)
- Conceptual and methodological design of an EWS .
- Maintenance/strengthening activities for the existing EWSs.
- Piloting of the new EWSs, operative and exploratory design phase and implementation phase in 7 countries.
- 2nd and 3rd Advisory Level and Design Level Meeting, with the participating countries (2nd and 3rd Annual Meeting of NODs).
- 3rd Meeting for follow-up and methodological adjustments of the new EWSs and strengthening of the existing ones (Uruguay, 2018).

Act. 1.4: Design studies to evaluate and validate monitoring instruments for indicators of “problematic use” of drugs

Leader Countries and European referent country:

Chile – Rumania / Jamaica - Cyprus

Participants countries : 11 Spanish-speaking and 11 English-speaking countries.

General objective: To produce the necessary methodological designs so that the NDOs of the CELAC countries and other users may count on instruments for measuring problematic drug use in their populations (general and school-based adolescents) which allow the generation of valid information for decision-making

Specific objectives:

- To have a document that exhaustively systematises the experience of the CELAC countries and of the participating States of the EU in the use of scales, protocols and indicators to estimate problematic use and that synthesises the methodological problems and good practices found when applying it.
- To establish a network of cooperative work with the institutional actors and researchers according to the CELAC region (Caribbean, Central America-Mexico, South America) and of the EU that work on research on the application of scales and protocols.
- Visualise the conceptual and practical difference between use of psychoactive substances and problematic use in national, regional and local diagnoses.

Act. 1.4: Activities foreseen 2017-2018

- The elaboration of the document that systematises the existing information about the scales, tests and indicators used in the epidemiological studies in the general and school population.
- 1st Meeting of the Advisory and decision-making Level which will be formed by a professional from OIG, the EMCDDA, and the PAHO, and from the leading countries of the Work Groups and others experts selected. (October, 2017 Chile).
- Elaboration of documents of Validation Designs. (Work meeting of the Design Level Group, 2018).
- Distribute among NDOs the materials that have been created for their use and Produce visibility through communication strategies and dissemination of the documents and materials produced by the development of the Activity. (2nd and 3rd Annual Meeting of NODs).

Act. 1.5: Enhancing the capacity of NDO to elaborate and disseminate a Country Report on drugs.

Leader Countries and European referent country :

Costa Rica – El Salvador - Portugal / Barbados – Guyana - Romania

Participants countries: 15 Spanish-speaking and 11 English-speaking countries.

General objective To carry out the tasks of developing strategies in order to strengthen the analytical capacity of NDOs for the production of Integral national reports.

Specific objectives:

- To define alternative models of National Reports.
- To design a mechanism for the systematisation of information according to indicators and specific periodicities.
- To define strategies of dissemination according to the target audience

Act. 1.5: Activities foreseen 2017-2018

- Preparation of a document on the status of the participating countries in relation to the National Report and the communication strategy developed .
- 1st Meeting of the Advisory and decision-making Level that will be composed by one professional from the OID, the EMCDDA, the leading countries of the Work Groups (Costa Rica, Costa 4-5th July, 2017).
- Preparation of documents by the experts of the Design level (July-October, 2017).
- Appointment of the consultant in charge of the drafting of the Country Report, proposed by the countries and can support by COPOLAD..
- Meeting of the Design level and the Coordination level with the countries for the distribution of the documents, training on the drafting of the Country Report and instructions to the initiation of work in each country. (2nd Annual Meeting of NODs, 2017).
- Search for information, compilation, analysis and preparation of the National Report in each country (January to May, 2018)
- Follow-up meeting between the Design level and the coordination level, on the status of implementation of the activity in the countries (July, 2018)
- Presentation of Preliminary Reports at the Annual Meeting of Observatories (3rd Annual Meeting of NODs, 2018)

Act. 1.6: Developing methodologies for a better understanding of new problems or threats

Leader Countries and European referent country:

Argentina – Colombia - Poland

Participants countries: Due to the characteristics of this Activity, its implementation is restricted — in its initial stages— to the CELAC countries that have implemented an EWS, but the scope of the products to be developed will be addressed and will be useful to all interested countries.

General objective: To have an updated mapping of new threats and existing problems in the CELAC countries in order to develop methodological responses in this regard.

Specific objectives:

- To design methodological strategies for specific threats-problems.
- To disseminate information on methodological alternatives.
- To promote the use of rapid diagnostic methods at the local level.

Act. 1.6: Activities foreseen 2017-2018

- Production of the mapping document of the new threats and problems detected in the countries of the region.
- 1st Meeting of the Advisory and Decision-making Level with a professional from the EMCDDA, the OID, from each of the operating EWSs. (August, 2017 Buenos Aires).
- Compile existing methodologies to explore, estimate and characterize new patterns in terms of consumption, new substances and/or new problems.
- Design possible methodological strategies to deepen the knowledge of these threats or problems.
- Prepare a document that provides information on the variety of methodologies available (September to December, 2017).
- Discussion meeting and evaluation of the document.(Febrery, 2018)
- Disseminate de prepared documents (2nd and 3rd Annual Meeting of NODs)



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Graciela Ahumada

**Task Force Coordinator
Component 1**

Tf.gahumada@copolad.eu



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