



COOPERATION
PROGRAMME BETWEEN
LATIN AMERICA,
THE CARIBBEAN AND
THE EUROPEAN UNION
ON DRUGS POLICIES

COP  LAD



This project is funded by
the European Union

COPOLAD is a cooperation programme funded by the European Commission through **EuropeAid**, with a total budget of **€10.000.000** and a time frame of **48 months** starting from January 2016.

The Programme is implemented between the Community of the Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and the European Union (EU) countries, **promoting to forge drug policies** which are supported by objective monitoring instruments and based on reliable and effective strategies.

The EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 and its Action Plan aim at addressing the new challenges that arise from the many problems related to drugs, which make up an increasingly complex reality. Its goals are to reduce drugs supply and demand and, in this way, to also reduce the social and health-related risks and harms caused by drug use. These goals are achieved through an integrated, balanced and evidence-based approach, providing the basis and political framework for the EU external cooperation in this field.

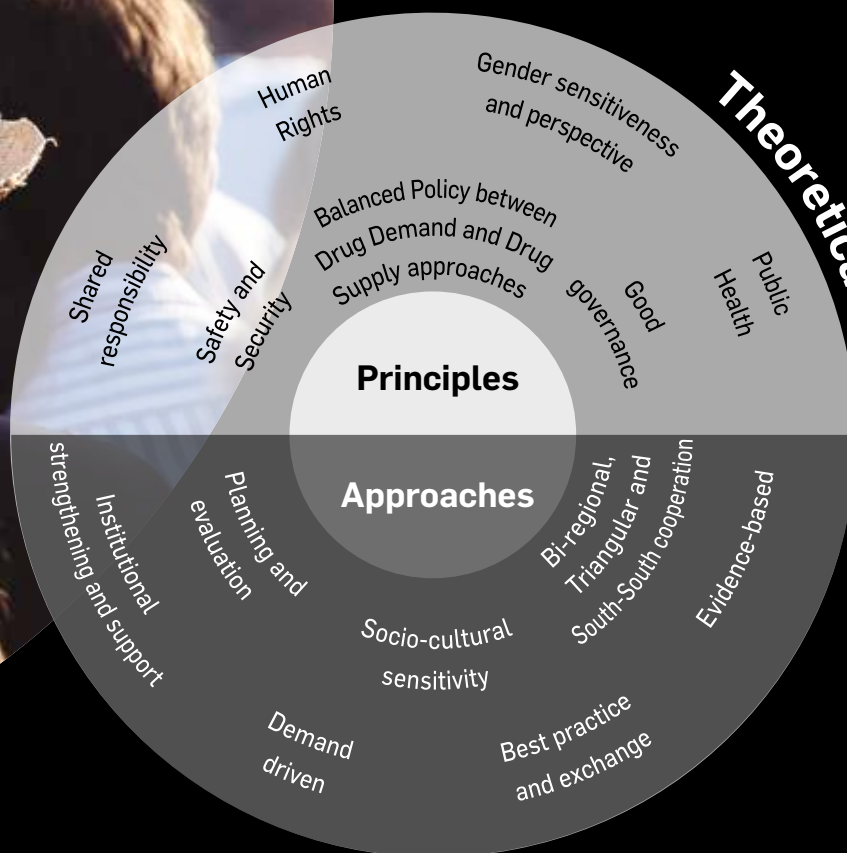
WHAT IS COPOLAD?

COPOLAD relies on a crosscutting model, which ensures its internal coherence through the integration of two dimensions: operational and theoretical.

Operational dimension

- Response to specific needs of the different groups of countries
- Promotion of synergies to avoid duplicities between stakeholders
- Provision of a practical oriented capacity building strategy
- Development of working lines and tools to be sustainable beyond the end of the programme

Theoretical dimension

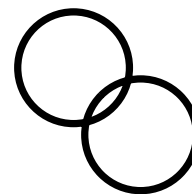


The second phase builds on the success and the consensus reached during the first phase, highlighting the strengthening, improvement and broadening of the open lines of action.

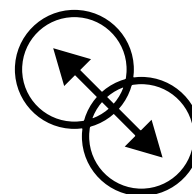


Launched in 2011, COPOLAD provided an excellent opportunity to enhance information exchange, as well as coordination and cooperation between the National Drug Agencies of the EU and CELAC and other actors responsible for drugs policies in both regions. By its completion in 2015, the Programme had facilitated the development of a broad range of evidence-based activities, instruments and resources which are useful to both regions.

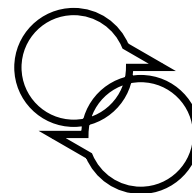
WHY A SECOND PHASE OF COPOLAD?



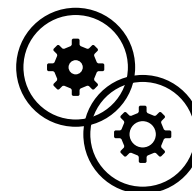
Supports the development of
consensus processes



Helps to implement a
**sustainable
demand-driven strategy**
on Drug Demand Reduction
and Drug Supply Reduction



Encourages **bi-regional dialogue**
on drugs policies



Enhances the role
of **National
Monitoring Centres**

COPOLAD aims at enhancing:

- Public policies committed to the principle of **shared responsibility** between all concerned stakeholders in the CELAC and EU countries, including governments, multilateral agencies and civil society.
- Policies linked to Sustainable Development Goals (2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, UN), such as the full respect for **human rights**, including **gender** sensitiveness and women's empowerment; a **public health** orientation; **good governance**; **security** and **the rule of law**.



OVERALL OBJECTIVES

To increase the **institutional strengthening** needed for planning and evaluating evidence-based policies in CELAC countries, by facilitating the rapprochement and cooperation between National Agencies in charge of global and sectoral drug policy-making in the CELAC and the EU countries.

To strengthen the capacities of the competent authorities dealing with both Drug Demand Reduction (DDR) and Drug Supply Reduction (DSR) in CELAC countries, by promoting the **cooperation** between agencies in charge of sectoral drugs policies in the CELAC and the EU countries.

To enhance and support existing bi-regional efforts and opportunities to promote the EU-CELAC **political and technical dialogue** on the nature of drug-related problems and the best ways to face them.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES?





HOW TO ACHIEVE THESE GOALS?

Covering
four components

1

Consolidation of the
National Drugs
Observatories

2

Capacity-building
in Drug Demand
Reduction

3

Capacity building
in Drug Supply
Reduction

4

Support to political
dialogue and consolidation
of the EU-CELAC Coordination
and Cooperation Mechanism
on Drugs



COMPONENT 1

Consolidation of National Drugs Observatories

While CELAC countries have come a long way in their efforts to generate and analyse drug data, there are still many challenges ahead.

In many countries, the need to set up resources and instruments for regular and sustainable data collection still remains. COPOLAD is providing technical assistance to enhance the development of well-established National Drug Observatories (NDOs), in order to serve as a useful tool for evidence-based policy making, by:

- Continuously monitoring Drug Demand and Drug Supply Reduction indicators.
- Conducting research into new trends.
- Coordinating in each country the tasks needed for implementing an Early Warning System (EWSs), to effectively face new threats in relation to drugs.

To achieve these goals, NDOs need to be further strengthened, in order to produce high quality epidemiological studies (longitudinal and cross sectional) as well as qualitative research. Close cooperation with the the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)¹ and Inter-American Observatory on Drugs (OID) of the CICAD-OAS² is established throughout the development of the activities of this component.

¹ European Union Agency.

² Observatory of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To increase the number of CELAC countries ensuring the necessary conditions and sustainability for registering and monitoring key and comparable indicators needed for evidence-based policy making in relation to drugs.



WORKING LINES

Institutional strengthening of NDOs

- Development and pilot implementation of monitoring instruments.
- Promotion of the implementation of EWSs in CELAC countries.

Practical oriented training: enhancing reporting capacity of NDOs

- Production of 1st information maps in interested countries.
- Training in key areas.



COMPONENT 2

Capacity building in Drug Demand Reduction

Since the adoption of the first European Drug Strategy 2000-2004, the EU clearly defines drug-related problems as primarily being a Public Health issue.

This approach was also endorsed recently by the CELAC countries through the OAS Hemispheric drug strategy 2011-2015. In both cases, DDR policies are considered essential to develop a balanced approach in the field of drug policy. The implementation of such a balance is still a challenge for the CELAC region.

COPOLAD brings a unique opportunity to support the CELAC region in the practical implementation of models and principles which are well established in the EU for more than three decades now, in countries that had to face huge challenges and have a good record of successes.

Cooperation, coordination and promotion of synergies will continue with actions in DDR developed by the EMCDDA, the CICAD / OAS, the PAHO / WHO, among other institutions, and bi-regional networks of NGOs: RIOD¹ and IDPC². Also, and as started during the first phase, the coordination with other EU funded DDR programmes will be maintained.

¹ Red Iberoamericana de ONG que trabajan en Drogodependencias.
² International Drug Policy Consortium.



SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To attain a significant number of CELAC countries adopting and sustaining key processes and tools to enhance the formulation, implementation and evaluation of a DDR policy based on Human Rights, Gender perspective and Public Health principles, delivered according to evidence and quality criteria.

WORKING LINES

Institutional strengthening in the field of DDR: Evidence-based and best practices exchange and quality criteria accreditation

- Pilot implementation of quality and evidence-based criteria in DDR delivering services.
- Exchange of best practices in DDR for different groups of population at risk, including gender sensitiveness and women's empowerment.

Sustainable capacity building based on a training of trainers' strategy

- Sustainable capacity building in key areas that are useful for planning and implementing DDR policies and strategies.
- Development of sustainable planning and evaluation tools.



COMPONENT 3

Capacity building in Drug Supply Reduction

Chemical Precursors

Precursor diversion represents a huge threat to the illicit manufacture of drugs in today's transnational reality, characterized by the great adaptability of criminal organizations in order to avoid control and tax mechanisms. This requires that all actors involved in the prevention and fight against this illegal activity carry out a comprehensive strategic approach and maximize cooperation and information exchange, at national, regional and bi-regional levels.

COPOLAD seeks to strengthen cooperation and to enhance the capacity of CELAC countries to gather, manage, prevent and monitor information on chemical precursors in order to design and implement effective policies and programmes to face the growing challenges posed by the illicit manufacture of synthetic drugs, by promoting the exchange of information and intelligence, as well as best practices between anti-narcotic police units, national drug control bodies and Public Prosecutors Offices, with an active involvement of the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

Law Enforcement

Most CELAC countries have a long-standing experience in this field, and there are also different relevant EU

cooperation programmes, as well as other projects funded by other institutions to be considered. Therefore, COPOLAD activities will complement, consolidate and further expand, at a regional level, already existing and future initiatives. These activities aim at complementing and coordinating efforts to enhance judicial reforms providing alternatives to prison; and to further strengthen policies devoted to the control of transnational organized crime as a major player in drug-related problems.

Alternative Development

Alternative Development (AD) is included in the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020, addressing illicit drug crop cultivation by means of rural development. AD seeks to tackle the root causes such as poverty, food insecurity, lack of access to arable land and to markets, as well as legal income opportunities.

The level of knowledge with regard to AD is heterogeneous among CELAC countries. While the Andean countries have implemented AD for more than a decade, AD experience in other Latin American and Caribbean countries is scarce or non-existent. Some countries have requested technical advice from the EU, enabling the sharing of best practices from a rural development perspective.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

To attain a significant number of CELAC countries using instruments and endorsing methods and processes identified through the information exchange and capacity building activities oriented at reducing drugs supply, based upon principles of human rights, social development and public security.

WORKING LINES

Capacity building and exchange of best practices in law enforcement and precursors

- Seminars on money laundering, cocaine trafficking routes and identification of best practices in alternative treatments to prison.
- Capacity building and exchange of best practices on control of precursors. Promotion of cooperation between Agencies and with the chemical industry, support and optimisation of information systems on precursors.

Alternative Development

- Exchange of good practices and capacity building.
- Increase of sustainable interventions.
- Improvement of the available evidence with a pilot livelihood study in a selected geographical area.



COMPONENT 4

Support to political dialogue and consolidation of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs

This component reinforces and supports the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, by continuing to promote and enhance opportunities for information exchange, coordination and cooperation among competent authorities, responsible of drugs policies in the EU and CELAC. Special emphasis is placed in consolidating existing potentialities of the Mechanism by:

- Supporting and increasing its visibility.
- Contributing to foster greater communication between different actors.
- Improving the availability of knowledge by broadening and facilitating access to relevant and evidence-based information for professionals and mediators.





SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

Reinforcing the role of the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs, by facilitating the bi-regional dialogue on the nature of drug-related issues and the best ways to face them.

WORKING LINES

Maintained support to the EU-CELAC Mechanism and bi-regional dialogue

- COPOLAD annual conference, organised back to back with the High Level Meetings of the Mechanism.
- Close coordination with the Technical Committee of the Mechanism.
- Fostering, through the COPOLAD e-room, territorial and thematic forums to promote communication channels and cooperation between countries and working groups.

Institutional strengthening of National Agencies to facilitate evidence-based decision making in the field of Drug Policy

- Technical reports, demanded by the Mechanism, to support policy making in key areas.
- Maintenance of the virtual Ibero-American Library on Drug Addictions (BIDA).

A black and white photograph of a small plant with three leaves growing out of a computer keyboard. The keyboard keys are visible in the foreground and background, slightly out of focus. A large black circle on the right side of the image contains the title and list of tools.

WORKING TOOLS

Exchange of best practices

Quality criteria

Policy evaluation

Sustainable capacity-building
strategy

LEADER

FIIAPP Spain

COUNTRIES

SEDRONAR Argentina

SENAD Brazil

SENDA Chile

MINJUSTICIA Colombia

ICD Costa Rica

CND Cuba

VLADA Czech Republic

CND Dominican Republic

SETED Ecuador

CNA El Salvador

GIZ Germany

DNII Honduras

CONADIC Mexico

CONAPRED Panama

DEVIDA Peru

NBDP Poland

SICAD Portugal

NAA Romania

DGPNSD Spain

NDC Trinidad and Tobago

JND Uruguay

ONA Venezuela

EUROPEAN AGENCY

EMCDDA

MULTILATERAL AGENCIES

CICAD – OAS • PAHO – WHO

BI-REGIONAL NETWORKS

AIAMP • IDPC • RIOD



This project is funded by
the European Union



www.copolad.eu

[@programacopolad](https://twitter.com/programacopolad)

info@copolad.eu

Edition: Executive and Coordination Body (ECB), FIIAPP
Design & Layout: Executive and Coordination Body (ECB), Cyan S.A.
© COPOLAD Programme 2017. All rights reserved.

