



CENTRAL ASIA DRUG ACTION PROGRAMME

Phase 7

Newsletter N1

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In the Spotlight

CADAP 7 launching conference



On 29 March 2022, the 7th Phase of the Central Asia Drug Reduction Programme (CADAP) was officially launched at an opening conference, aimed at presenting an overview of the current implementing phase, elaborate on key objectives and expected results, and define priorities and joint actions at a regional level.

The event brought together over a hundred participants including the key beneficiary agencies, embassies of the Central Asian countries, European Union Member States, international organisations working on security and drug reduction, and other partners. By offering opportunities to meet, discuss and exchange expertise and professional opinions, the conference represented the next step towards strengthening a coordination platform in the area of drug demand reduction.



CADAP 7 1st Programme Steering Committee discusses plan for the 1st year of programme implementation

On 30 March 2022, the First Steering Committee meeting brought together delegates from the counter-narcotics beneficiary agencies, European Union Delegations from the Central Asian countries, in order to discuss plans for the first year of the programme implementation.

The meeting involved a presentation of the programme's objectives, expected results and the actions planned for the next year, followed by a constructive discussion with the primary beneficiaries and partners. The objectives of the meeting were to share good practices, identify priority issues, discuss the working plan, identify opportunities for knowledge and experience sharing in the area of drug reduction. The discussion allowed participants from all five Central Asian countries to identify additional needs and make further recommendations, which shall be taken into account in the work plan for the next year.

The meeting was essential for discussing plans for the first year of the programme implementation, laying a foundation for further cooperation and establishing a forum for the presentation of achievements, evaluation of results, and feedback. Similar regional meetings will take place each year throughout the implementation period.



Identifying needs and priorities for CADAP 7 in the region

During the 4th quarter of 2022 Assessment Missions have been conducted in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan. The purpose of these missions was to present CADAP 7 to partners and stakeholders, present the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025, and the Joint Communication on "The EU and Central Asia: New Opportunities for a Stronger Partnership", to confirm the commitment to reflect the continuity of the EU long-term engagement with Central Asian partners to help further strengthen their drug demand reduction national plans and continue cooperating in the development of integrated and balanced drug policies, to assess current capacities and national infrastructure, identify gaps and shortfalls, define the needs and priorities for CADAP 7 based on countries needs.

The assessment team, consisting from European Union representatives, implementing partner (FIIAPP), CADAP 7 Management, met main partners and stakeholders from national authorities of Central Asian countries dealing with drug policies - Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Counter Narcotics Services, Ministries of Interior, General prosecutors Offices, Ministries of Interior, Border Services, Ministries of health, educational institutions.

Partners in their turn made presentations and reports identifying needs in the area of capacity building, prevention and treatment, infrastructural support, strengthening of educational system, institutional support. The findings of the assessment missions have been used for development of draft working plan and strategy of CADAP 7 which was then presented to beneficiaries and stakeholders during the 1st Programme Steering Committee Meeting.

Quote

"CADAP 7 is a key EU programme for development and reflection on drug policies.

Providing an evidence-based methodology on drugs issues is a key element of any drug policy strategy.

In line with the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025, and the Joint Communication on "The EU and Central Asia: New Opportunities for a Stronger Partnership", CADAP 7 reflects the continuity of the EU long-term engagement with Central Asian partners to help further strengthen their drug demand reduction national plans and continue cooperating in the development of integrated and balanced drug policies.

The European Union will seek further ways to intensify cooperation with the region to fight organised crime, migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings and trafficking in illicit drugs. The EU will continue cooperating in developing integrated and balanced drug policies in drug demand reduction and addressing illegal drugs supply and related organised crime in the CA region."



Raimonds Vingris, DHM, Head of Political, Press and Information Section of the European Union Delegation to the KR



Tajikistan. In the footsteps of previous phases.

On April 7, CADAP Director Ernest Robello visited the regional Drug Treatment Center in Kulyab, Tajikistan. In 2017, CADAP Programme donated specialized equipment to the Emergency Department of the Center (medical beds, laryngoscopes, defibrillator, patient monitors, oxygen concentrator, biochemical semi-automatic analyzer, etc.). This equipment is fully functional and has already proved its effectiveness in saving human lives as stated by Chief Doctor Dr. Zohir Saburov.



This meeting took place within the framework of the visit to Tajikistan as part of CADAP-BOMCA joint working mission, led by Mr. Cosimo Lamberti, Project Manager of the EU Delegation to the Kyrgyz Republic. In addition to the visit to the narcological center, meetings were held with national partners- Department of Internal Affairs of the Khatlon region, Administration of the Khatlon region, Border Troops of Khatlon region.



Tajikistan has been an active and committed partner of CADAP since 2002. As a result of many years of joint efforts with national partners, platforms have been created for dialogue on regional and national drug policy with key government and civil organizations; a system for regular monitoring of data on the drug situation is being formed; modern methods of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addiction are being introduced; public awareness is being raised through information campaigns and trainings.

Ms. Cholpon Tabaldieva, Lieutenant-colonel of police, Service for Ministry of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic, one of CADAP's const

- Dear Cholpon, could you please tell us a little bit bout your job.

- You know, I'm probably the lucky one about whom you can say that "she found a job she likes", because my job combines exactly components resonating with me. This is a creative process, constant professional development, exchange of experience with other countries, communication with experts and the most valuable thing is that my work benefits my country and society. I am sure that if each person finds such an occupation for himself, then there will be more happy people in the world. I love children, and my profession directly obliges me to work mostly with children and young people. The whole process is aimed at activities contributing to the prevention of the spread of drug use among young people and their involvement in drug trafficking. To do this, we use various tools, mainly promoting a healthy lifestyle, conducting awareness campaigns. In addition, I write scripts for our social and preventive videos. This is a very exciting process, when a thought born in the head falls on paper, and then you can see it on the screen.



- How many drugs are seized annually in the Kyrgyz Republic? What work is being done by the Service in combating illegal trafficking

- For example, last year all law enforcement agencies, including internal affairs agencies, seized about 4 tons of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors from illicit trafficking. At the same time, the main volume and share of seizures of drugs falls on the internal affairs bodies. Countering drug trafficking is one of the most important factors in ensuring stability in society and the successful development of the State. I will try to explain briefly what exactly our division does- the Service is an independent structural subdivision of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic, which performs the functions of developing and implementing State policy in the field of combating illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors; carries out close interaction and cooperation with many competent authorities of foreign countries, international organizations.



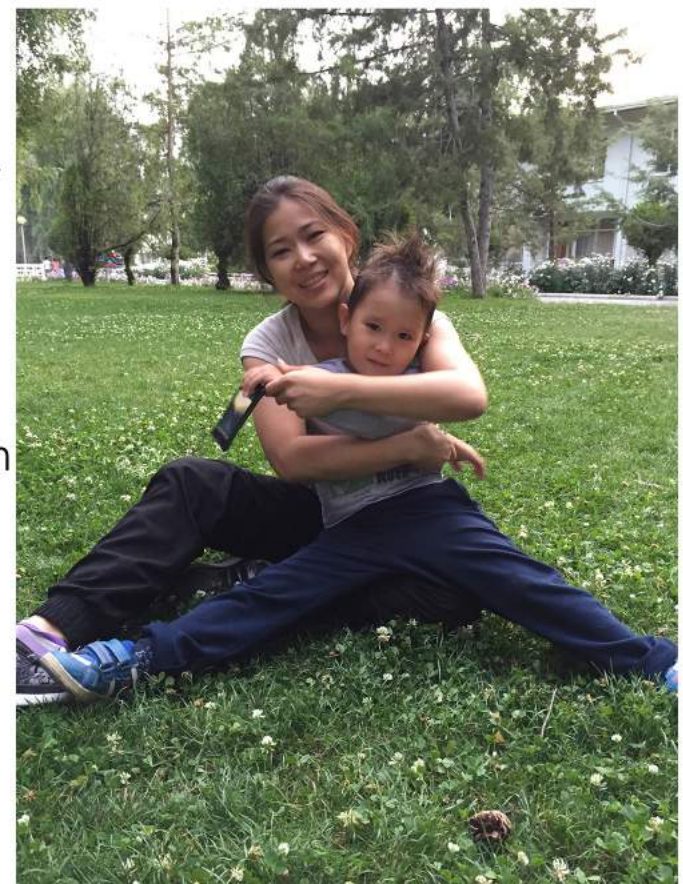
In addition to the main task of curbing the activities of drug groups, our Service is engaged in preventive work. This is exactly what I do. A lot of work is being done in this direction, which certainly requires the support of our international partners. What is drug prevention? First of all, as international practice says, is the formation of moral and hygienic beliefs among the younger generation, excluding and displacing the possibility of risky behavior based on the promotion of a healthy lifestyle and other types of alternative leisure.

- What are your plans and expectations from the current CADAP phase?

- Of course, it is expected that within the 7th phase of the Program we will continue the initiated cooperation and achieve tangible results in the field of drug prevention. I've developed the concept of a Training and Exhibition Center for Drug Prevention and proposed it to management of the Service for consideration as an idea for implementation. Once the support from management has been received, the mechanism has been launched. It is included in the joint working plan now and I hope that by the end of the 7th phase we will already be conducting the first excursions for the younger generation. The need to create this Center is primarily due to the negative trend in the drug situation in the region, associated with an increase in synthetic drugs or so-called new psychoactive substances, as well as their advertising and distribution using Internet resources, social messengers.

- Cholpon, why this particular profession was attractive to you? It is commonly believed that work in the police is purely the prerogative of men.

- A very interesting question, I did not even think about why my choice touched on this particular profession. It was as a matter of course, since my maternal grandfather was the head of the district police, my mother took over from him. Being a child, I often went to work with my mother, saw officers in uniform, then stories about my grandfather, movies, all this unconsciously contributed to my choice, I think. And the fact that the profession is being considered more as a "purely male" is stereotype only. There are enough professions in the internal affairs bodies where woman do an excellent job and successfully combine it her other important responsibilities of a wife, mother.



The EU Gender Equality Strategy delivers on the von der Leyen Commission's commitment to achieving a Union of Equality. The goal is a Union where women and men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, are free to pursue their chosen path in life, have equal opportunities to thrive, and can equally participate in and lead our European society. The key objectives are ending gender-based violence; challenging gender stereotypes; closing gender gaps in the labour market; achieving equal participation across different sectors of the economy; addressing the gender pay and pension gaps; closing the gender care gap and achieving gender balance in decision-making and in politics. The Strategy pursues a dual approach of gender mainstreaming combined with targeted actions, and intersectionality is a horizontal principle for its implementation. While the Strategy focuses on actions within the EU, it is coherent with the EU's external policy on gender equality and women's empowerment.

The Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP) is an European Union initiative to promote the development of effective drug demand reduction policies in Central Asian countries.

Since its launch in 2003, the different phases of CADAP have been supporting the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in the implementation of strategies and measures to reduce the demand for drugs, promoting prevention initiatives and improving the treatment offered by public institutions to drug users in the region,

In line with the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025, and the Joint Communication on "The EU and Central Asia: New Opportunities for a Stronger Partnership", CADAP7 reflects the continuity of the EU long-term engagement with Central Asian partners to help further strengthen their drug demand reduction national plans and continue cooperating in the development of integrated and balanced drug policies.

The whole approach and principles of the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 are clearly reflected in the design of the programme: respect for human dignity, liberty, democracy, equality, solidarity, the rule of law and human rights. CADAP 7 is also based on the relevant UN Conventions which provide the international legal framework for addressing the illicit drugs phenomenon, and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. The implementation of CADAP 7 will be guided by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The Programme is funded by the European Union for a total of 6,8 million Euros. On this new phase, CADAP is being led by the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP) with the strategic and technical support of other EU Member States' drug agencies as well as the specialized expertise of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA).

With a 42-month implementation period, the **overall objective** of CADAP 7 is to contribute to the reduction of drug use and its associated risks and harms. CADAP gives support to Central Asian governments in the development of integrated and evidence-based drug policies and to improve access to quality drug

The five main areas of action aim to achieve the following **key results**:

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|-----------------------------------|---|
| Result 1. Drug policy: | Enhance the incorporation of an evidence-based approach and mainstream the Agenda 2030 into national and regional drug policies |
| Result 2. Data collection: | Strengthen National Information Systems to produce objective, reliable, gender sensitive, scientific standards-based information on drug situation based on EU |
| Result 3. Prevention: | Improve evidence-based prevention programmes both in their formulation and implementation, including a focus on young people, woman and vulnerable groups |
| Result 4. Treatment: | Increase and improve healthcare and social responses to tackling drug use by consolidating good practices and better-quality services for drug users |
| Result 5. Coordination: | Increase efficiency and effectiveness of the programme by implementing a systematic Gender and HRBA to the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the targeted intervention |

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