

PRESS RELEASE

Enhancing cooperation between state institutions and civil society on drug use prevention and drug treatment services

Almaty, 29 November 2022

On November 29-30 in Almaty, Kazakhstan, a regional dialogue between state institutions and civil society on strengthening and exchanging good practices on drug treatment and prevention has been conducted with support of the EU-funded Central Asia Drug Action Programme (CADAP). The event gathered key Central Asian state authorities dealing with the drug reduction as well as non-governmental sector representatives.

The aim of this regional workshop was to discuss most recent trends and developments in drug scene, to enhance the role of civil society in drug demand reduction and support regional collaboration in terms of good practices sharing and implementation in the context of the drug use prevention and drug treatment.

Mr Cosimo Lamberti, EU Representative, expressed the idea of joint cooperation between state institutions and civil society to achieve an optimal implementation of CADAP's priority areas in the field of drug demand reduction.

Mr. Bakhytzhan Amirkhanov from the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Kazakhstan, expressed the assurance that cooperation within CADAP 7 will be effective and will allow to solve a certain range of drug prevention issues, especially among vulnerable groups of the population.

Participants presented their countries experiences and learned European approaches and best practices on establishing cooperation mechanisms between state institutions and civil society in treatment of drug use disorders and prevention of drug use. New trends in drugs scene were presented to participants on the example of several countries and possible role of civil society in drug demand reduction has been discussed in working groups as well as analysis and suggestion of measures to include into the roadmap on strengthening national policy, monitoring, prevention and treatment.

Since its launch in 2003, the different phases of the EU-funded CADAP Programme have been supporting the governments of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan in implementing 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. The new 7th phase, with a total budget of 6.8 million Euros, intends to continue targeting interventions in the development of integrated and evidence-based drug policies and to improve access to quality drug demand reduction initiatives to vulnerable groups, following a gender and human rights-based approach (HRBA).



CADAP 7 is implemented by FIIAPP –

International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies. A foundation of the Spanish public sector that manages international cooperation projects within the framework of the 2030 Agenda. FIIAPP is an actor of the Spanish and European cooperation whose work is based on peer-topeer exchange of knowledge and learning between public administrations of different countries.



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Delegation of the European Union to the Kyrgyz Republic

21 Erkindik Boulevard, Business Centre Orion, 5th floor; Bishkek, 720040, Kyrgyz Republic

Telephone: +996 312 26 10 00

E-mail: delegation-kyrgyzstan@eeas.europa.eu
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/eudelkg

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