

Nº6 Newsletter

Central Asia Drug
CADAP
Action Programme



20
YEARS
TOGETHER
funded by the European Union



FIIAPP
COOPERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA



Spotlight

A handicraft contest followed by an exhibition of pieces of art reflecting local traditions in border regions, conducted in Uzbekistan, has completed a series of celebration activities to commemorate the 20th anniversary of BOMCA and CADAP programmes

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Spotlight



Spotlight

A **handicraft contest** followed by an exhibition of pieces of art reflecting local traditions in border regions, conducted in Uzbekistan, has completed a series of celebration activities to commemorate the 20th anniversary of BOMCA and CADAP

Programmes. The solemn event gathered over 100 programme partners and beneficiaries from all five Central Asian countries:- state institutions, international organisations, embassies, and civil society representatives.

“

Over the past two decades, these initiatives have played a pivotal role in fostering cooperation, stability, and development in the regions they serve. Most importantly, I believe that those EU funded programmes serve as an important instrument to advance on reform efforts and regional cooperation in Central Asia. So, 20 years is indeed a huge milestone that deserves celebration”, - underlines H.E. Charlotte Adriaen, EU Ambassador to Uzbekistan”, - underlines H.E. Charlotte Adriaen, EU Ambassador to Uzbekistan.

CADAP has systematically invested in drug policy development in Central Asia over the past 20 years. The exchange of experience and the introduction of international standards in the work of national partners have strengthened work not only on drug policy but also on data collection and analysis, prevention of drug use,

and treatment of people with drug disorders. The programme also supported the building of regional alliances and networks of professionals in Central Asia and strengthened cooperation with EU Member States Agencies in the field of drug policy.

“

I would like to take a moment to acknowledge and appreciate the hard work and dedication of all those professionals and institutions involved in the different phases of the programme over the years. Congratulations to BOMCA and CADAP for these 20 years. I wish you success in continuing your journey facing the new challenges in the region and adapting yourselves to a changing reality in pursuit of sustainability”, - congratulates Ms. Maria Gonzalez, Manager of FIIAPP, International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies, which leads current 7th Phase of CADAP.



“

Today's anniversary is a great opportunity not only to look back on the achievements obtained but also to look forward towards a new horizon in which the bi-regional cooperation can serve as the vehicle to foster stronger bonds between the EU and Central Asia”.

In brief

Presentation of biobehavioral research among labor migrants of the Kyrgyz Republic

On September 6, the presentation of a biobehavioral study among labor migrants of the Kyrgyz Republic took place in Bishkek. CADAP supported this initiative of HIV Center of the Ministry of Health of the Kyrgyz Republic, main tasks of which were to estimate the prevalence of HIV and syphilis. Also, risky behavior, injecting drug use, and awareness of migrants in general were determined during the research.

Kyrgyzstan is a source of economic migration, mainly to Russia and Kazakhstan. Low socioeconomic status, limited access to various services, lack of risk awareness and stress associated with being away from family and not being integrated in the country of destination contribute to migrants' vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.

One of the key contributions from the CADAP Program was assisting in the oversight, monitoring and quality assurance of data collection within the study. This study is necessary to study the dynamics of the spread of HIV infection and use of injection drugs, risk factors, behavior patterns among labor migrants and sex workers, assess and subsequently predict the situation and timely planning of preventive measures.

The study was conducted in Bishkek, Osh, Sokuluk, Jalalabad, Nookat. The total sample was 1226 people. Capillary blood was tested, rapid tests for HIV and syphilis were taken, and a biobehavioral study was carried out.

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The study revealed unsafe injecting behavior, an outbreak of HIV among migrants from the Kyrgyz Republic expect can be expected, 22 percent of respondents are people with risky behavior. The number of HIV-positive migrants has increased by 37 times. Of these, 25 percent reported injecting drug use and almost half had more than one partner in the past 12 months” - *report Aijan Dorobekova and Aisuluu Kubatova, members of the expert group, which has conducted the research.*



“

CADAP is focusing on drugs but drugs are close to HIV and we are very interested to see and define where we can go from here, to think over many processes and phenomenon. Presentation of the study creates a space for discussion among excellent experts», - *says Cosimo Lamberti, EU representative.*

“

“Over the period 2017-2021, significant changes and variations have been observed in HIV cases by sex in Kyrgyzstan. Importantly, there has been a remarkable 40% increase in HIV prevalence among the population over the past five years, while there has been a significant 88% reduction in new HIV cases related to drug use. However, there has been an 8.5% increase in the total number of PWID, with an increase of 46% among women and 36% among men. In addition, a 4% decrease in new HIV cases has been observed. These results reflect the HIV situation in Kyrgyzstan during the reporting period and underline the need to continue implementing prevention and treatment measures to effectively address this challenge”, *adds Ernest Robello, CADAP Director, based on recent CADAP findings revealed during data collection on drugs, performed by CADAP in Central Asian countries.*

In brief

Regional drug threats and challenges have been discussed in Astana

On September 28 in Astana CADAP hosted a regional dialogue on drug policy - a meeting attended by representatives of Central Asia drug control agencies, European institutions and expert organizations such as Spanish Government delegation for the National Plan on Drugs, *European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug*

Addiction (EMCDDA), Intelligence Centre against Terrorism and Organised Crime (CITCO). Spanish Ministry of Interior; European Union delegations in Central Asian countries, representatives of the civil society sector, international experts, international organisations and other regional partner programmes.



The objective of the dialogue was to foster a dynamic discussion among key stakeholders in Central Asia; to provide an overview of the drug situation in Central Asia; to discuss current situation in the field of drug policy, threats and



challenges of drug policies in supply control to present the results of country assessments held recently and provide key recommendations. As it was emphasized by Cosimo Lamberti, EU representative,

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The regional component is very important for the European Union as it brings best possible drug harm reduction practices”.

learning from European experience and country level good practice, and resetting the drug control system to focus on health and human rights. A separate session was dedicated to education of stakeholders as an effective tool for successful drug policy design and implementation.

The Regional Dialogue on Drug Policy is another important step forward to facilitate the broader consultation and cooperation between European institutions and Central Asian authorities.

According to Ernest Robello, CADAP 7 Director, this kind of cooperation is essential:

“

A balanced approach to the issue of drugs and drug policy can only be achieved if there is stronger cooperation. Strengthening the dialogue is imperative in order to formulate consistent and effective global responses to drug-related challenges”.



In brief

Experts from EU and CA exchanged views regarding drug situation

On December 12 in Brussels, Belgium, the EU-Central Asia Drug Dialogue has been conducted under the chairmanship of Spain - regular annual dialogue aiming to strengthen international cooperation, exchange views and support the proper development of drug policies.



EU side was represented by EU Member States and representatives of the EU institutions and agencies such as the European Commission, the European Monitoring Centre of Drugs and Addictions, EUROPOL, the European External Action Service and General Secretariat of the Council of Europe. Particularly, the European Commission presented the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 and its Action Plan 2021-2025 and EU agencies shared the information on recent development in the EU.

CADAP supported the participation in the Dialogue of delegations from all 5 Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan) among the representatives of relevant state institutions, whose activities include countering drug smuggling and developing state policy in the field of drugs.

The European Union provided an update on drugs policy and drugs situation in the EU, including on the evaluation of the implementation of the EU Drugs Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025. It was followed by an update on drugs policy and drugs situation in Central Asia countries, with recent developments and trends. The general overview of the collaboration between the EU and Central Asia in the field of drugs was given as well as the presentation of CADAP and other regional EU funded programmes. Finally, emerging challenges focusing on the drug situation in Afghanistan: methamphetamine and heroin production, and trafficking and other recent developments and trends were discussed.



Expert dialogues on drugs are the fundamental part of the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025 that strongly supports information sharing on the strategies, aims and relevant initiatives through the dialogues on drugs with international partners, both at regional and bilateral level. Dialogues are typically based on multilateral partnership and cooperation with representatives of various regions or EU long-term partners. The goal is to address the experts from the countries outside of the EU and exchange views concerning the drug situation, both at regional and international level.

20 years together.

BOMCA-CADAP 20 years celebration

In 2023, BOMCA and CADAP Programmes celebrated their 20th Anniversary. A wide range of special activities all over the Central Asia have been implemented to mark this special year.



Kyrgyzstan

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When talking about security and stability in Central Asia, we cannot ignore the link between economic development and the overall prosperity of the region”

“Strengthening regional stability and security in Central Asia is a complex and long-term process that requires the cooperation of many countries and international organizations. The European Union can play a key role in achieving this goal with its expertise in development, diplomacy and peacebuilding”

“Cooperation between the European Union and Central Asia has a huge potential for strengthening security and stability in the region. Both parties can mutually benefit from such a partnership, as it allows developing economic, political and cultural ties, as well as solving common problems and challenges.”

“Stability and security is impossible without high-quality education. Since illiteracy most often creates evil in the form of: terrorism, other types of crimes»

In September, we summed up the results of the essays competition among students of Kyrgyzstan, dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the BOMCA and CADAP Programmes. Students were offered to reflect on the topic “Cooperation between European Union and Central Asia: ways

of strengthening security and stability in Central Asia”. The authors of the best works were awarded valuable prizes and welcomed by Ambassador of the European Union to Kyrgyzstan.



20 years together.

BOMCA-CADAP 20 years celebration

Kazakhstan

On October 13, in Almaty, Kazakhstan, CADAP and BOMCA Programmes organised an International competition for dog handlers/service dogs in the areas of "Search of drugs" and "Search of explosives". The Competition was organised in

cooperation with a Dog Training Center of the Agency of Financial Monitoring of Kazakhstan and Dog Training Center of Border Service of the Committee of National Security of Kazakhstan.



Tajikistan

We wanted to inspire people to create an image that conveys the significance and value of health and safety and thus invited the people of Tajikistan to present their vision on sustainable and peaceful development across the country. So, in August we launched a photography competition in Tajikistan, dedicated to the 20th anniversary of the EU programmes BOMCA and CADAP.

The award ceremony took place on October 31 with the participation of representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan and the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Tajikistan, Mr. Raimundas Karoblis.



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CADAP 7 at a glance



42 months

February 2021 –
August 2024



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.

Target group



Final Beneficiaries

- 1 people with drug use disorders
- 2 young people
- 3 women
- 4 migrants



Location



Total budget
€ 6,8 millions



EU contribution
€ 6,8 millions

Implementing organization



FIIAPP
COOPERACIÓN ESPAÑOLA



FIIAPP is a foundation of the Spanish Public Sector that aims the participation of public administrations in international cooperation programmes, mobilizing the knowledge and experiences of the public systems of the European Union and third countries within the framework of the 2030 Agenda.

Strategic partnership and technical support



SECRETARÍA DE ESTADO
DE SANIDAD
DELEGACIÓN DEL GOBIERNO
PARA EL PLAN NACIONAL SOBRE DROGAS



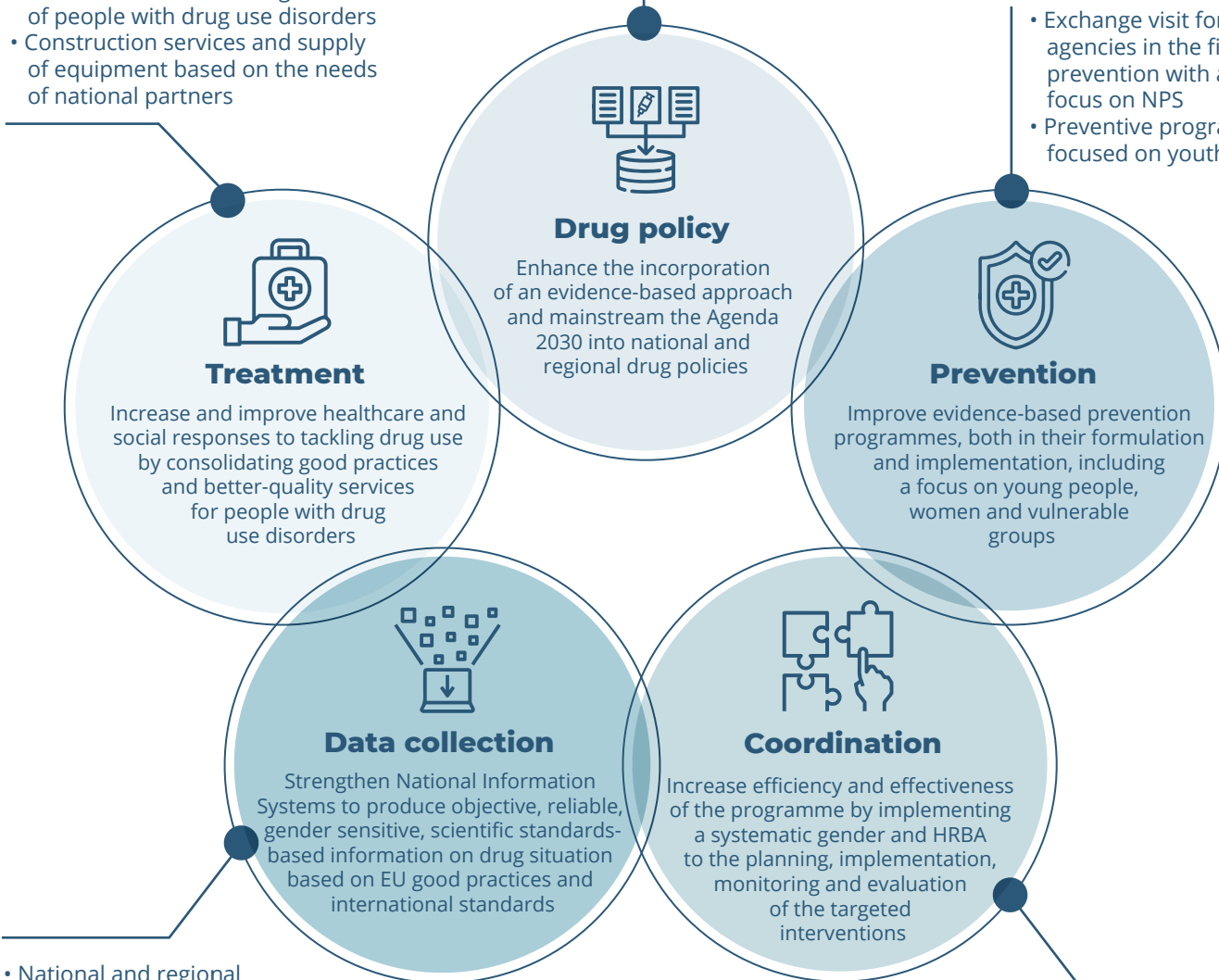
European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Main areas of action

- Trainings for treatment professionals
- Development of curricula for rehabilitation and reintegration of people with drug use disorders
- Construction services and supply of equipment based on the needs of national partners

- Support of participation of governmental delegations from CA countries in drug dialogues, EMCDDA expert meetings and international conferences
- National and regional dialogues on drug policies
- Development of drug policies roadmaps

- Exchange visit for national agencies in the field of drug prevention with a special focus on NPS
- Preventive programme focused on youth at risk



- National and regional researches on pharmaceutical drugs and NPS
- National reports on drug situations
- Targeted studies based on countries specific needs
- Strengthening of early warning system on the detection of NPS
- Exchange visit in Spain and Internships in EMCDDA

Joint activities with
 - UN bodies
 - EMCDDA
 - Bilateral agencies
 - Other EU-funded programmes

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