

Uzbekistan

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

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 implementation of CADAP 7 is guided by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. 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.

On this 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 [EU Drugs Agency \(EUDA\)](#).

Since its launch in 2003, the different phases of CADAP have supported the government of the Republic of 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 country.

CADAP 7 is supporting the Republic of Uzbekistan in a comprehensive manner, integrating the country's participation in the working groups of the five main outputs of the Programme (drug policy, data collection, prevention, treatment and coordination), providing technical guidance to the initiatives agreed with the national authorities and donating supplies and equipment to reinforce the actions promoted by the Programme. CADAP 7 is supporting the National Center for Drug Control under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other national partners with requested equipment to improve coordination and prevention measures on provincial level.

Drug Policy

National and regional dialogues on drug policy have contributed to the development of key recommendations and strategic policy discussions. These efforts led to the preparation of several important publications, including the ***Systematisation Report of the Regional Seminar on Strengthening Balanced and Evidence-Based Drug Policies***, and the ***Systematisation Report on Central Asia's National Drug Policy Dialogues***, the ***Regional Drug Policy Report***, the ***Handbook on Drug Policy Development for Countries in the Central Asia Region***. Developed through events held across Central Asia, including Uzbekistan, these resources aim to support evidence-based policymaking and the adoption of effective practices in the region.

The drug policy output is implemented with the support of [Episteme Social](#), Spain.

Data collection

CADAP7 has increased technical and institutional capacity, enhanced regional cooperation and experience exchange, and strengthened early warning mechanisms for new psychoactive substances elaborating epidemiological surveys, guidelines and reports: ***Current situation of Data Collection and Drug Early Warning Systems in the Republic of Uzbekistan; Implementation manual on Early Warning Systems on New Psychoactive Substances; Guidelines on compiling a country situation profile; Guidelines on Compiling the Annual Drug Situation Report.***

The data collection output is implemented with the support of [Společnost Podané ruce](#), Czechia.

Prevention

Key initiatives under CADAP 7 have led to the completion of final prevention programme products. A comprehensive programme which includes on ***Educational package for intervention focused on stigma reduction***, along with the ***Core Curriculum on Drug Prevention for Postgraduate Training*** designed for prevention specialists, has been fully developed. National trainers have been prepared for its implementation, making it ready for piloting. Additionally, other prevention programmes have been finalised and are set for deployment to support national efforts. The ***Guidelines (Manual) for a Selective Prevention Programme*** targeting women and vulnerable groups, including youth and migrants, is in its final stage, ensuring its alignment with ongoing prevention strategies.

CADAP 7 has also promoted the cooperation between the state and civil society in the field of primary prevention.

The output on Prevention is implemented with the support of expertise from [Poland](#).

Drug Treatment

CADAP 7 has elaborated a *Therapeutic programme for the treatment of people with psychoactive substance disorders* addressed to health professionals in the Republic of Uzbekistan and a *Protocol of Collaboration between prison staff and civil society regarding people who use drugs in prison*.

The Treatment output is implemented with the support of [Akzept e.V.](#), Germany and [Nazarbayev University](#).

Coordination

Several initiatives were conducted to enhance the programme's effectiveness, increase technical and institutional capacity on drug policy, data collection and drug demand reduction issues, and to promote and widen regional, international cooperation and dialogue. These events took place across Central Asia countries and EU MS such as, Belgium, Austria, Portugal, Spain, involving approximately 120 delegates and experts from the Republic of Uzbekistan. The activities and events were conducted in partnership with Spanish institutions (Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs – [DGPNSD](#), and the Intelligence Center against Terrorism and Organized Crime - [CITCO](#)) Presidencies of the Council of the EU (Czech Republic, Spain), EU-funded programmes (BOMCA, EU ACT, LEICA) and international bodies and agencies (UNODC, EUDA, US INL-CADCA).

Procurement

Under CADAP 7 the procurement action for the Republic of Uzbekistan has included targeted IT equipment. This equipment will be distributed among various national stakeholders, including the National Center on Drug Control, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Health, and the Public Charitable Foundation “Mahalla,” to support ongoing efforts in drug policy, prevention, and treatment.

Impact of CADAP 7

- Strengthened the foundations for evidence-based drug policies, encouraging the adoption of modern prevention and treatment interventions.
- Enhanced multi-sector collaboration across government bodies and civil society, fostering a comprehensive approach to drug demand reduction.
- Supported the creation of early warning systems (EWS) in Central Asian states.
- Human capital – increased capacity in drug demand reduction and a vast pool of professionals trained.

- Built professional capacity through specialised training, resulting in a broader network of skilled practitioners.
- Facilitated the procurement of essential equipment, reinforcing the ability of key stakeholders to implement and monitor effective programmes.
- Promoted regional exchange of knowledge and best practices, supporting harmonised strategies across Central Asia.