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**EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
IN THE AREA OF THE DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION:
CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS FOR THE FUTURE**

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Context

- n Countries (developed and developing) lack of human resources to work in different aspects of the drug demand reduction;
- n Some countries and international organizations have begun investing in professional training programs to teach, work, and conduct research in the area of drug demand reduction in the Americas;
- n Universities and other institutions play an important role in the training on drug demand reduction for a globalized world;
- n The drug phenomenon viewed from an international health perspective offers basis for the shift of paradigm in the area of drug demand reduction;
- n Since 1998, CICAD has been developing a University Partnership Program in Latin America to introduce drug content within undergraduate and graduate curricula, to develop extension activities and research with nursing, public health, education, and medicine;
- n Currently CICAD works with more than 174 universities in Latin America and the Caribbean.

**CICAD Contribution to Professional
Development in the Area of Drug Demand
Reduction at University Level in Latin
America and the Caribbean**

Project of Schools of Nursing Since 1998

Countries	Type Activities	Results
AR., BO., BR, CL, CO., CR., EC, HN., MX., PA, PY, PE., UY & VE (14 countries – 150 schools)	Education	
	Faculty and students training	5,000 faculty and 70.000 students trained
	Curriculum development	90 Drug curriculum implemented (transversal)
	Evaluation and monitoring	1 CICAD external evaluation implemented 1 OAS internal evaluation implemented
	Specific capacity- building	2 Leadership institutes implemented
	Extension	
	Activities carried out at the community level	300 extension activities on promotion healthy and sustainable life style, drug prevention, and social integration with high risks groups
	Research	
	Research studies carried out by faculty	82 Individual research studies implemented 1 Multicentric study implemented
	Scientific events	2 Nursing research forum; 8 Regional meetings; 2 Integrated meetings; Presentation of posters and papers in other scientific events at national and international levels
	Information dissemination	12 books published 1 research report and several abstracts and papers published
	Networking	Established “Schools of Nursing Network on Drugs”

Project of Schools of Public Health Since 2005

Countries	Type Activities	Results
AR., BO., BR, CO., EC, ES, GT, HN., MX., NI, PE., PR & UY (13 countries - 13 schools)	Education	
	Faculty and students training	260 faculty and 1.300 students trained
	Curriculum Development	93 courses and continue education certificates implemented
	Evaluation and monitoring	Informal evaluation through technical reports and during official missions to the projects
	Specific capacity- building	2 continuing education seminars on drug phenomenon and international health
	Extension	
	Activities carried out at the community level	19 drug prevention activities with high risks groups implemented
	Research	
	Research studies carried out by faculty	78 individual research studies implemented 1 Multicentric study implemented
	Scientific events	2 Regional meetings; 2 Integrated meetings; Presentation of posters and papers in other scientific events at national and international levels
	Information dissemination	Abstracts and papers published 1 research report in process to be published
	Networking	Established "Schools Public Health Network on Drugs"

Project of Schools of Education Since 2005

Countries	Type Activities	Results
AR, BO, BR, CL, CO, ES, HN, & RD (8 countries – 10 schools)	Education	
	Faculty and students training	150 faculty and 800 students trained
	Curriculum development	10 Drug curriculum implemented (Transversal)
	Evaluation and monitoring	Informal evaluation through technical reports and during official missions to the projects
	Specific capacity-building	1 continuing education seminars on drug phenomenon and international health
	Extension	
	Activities carried out at the community level	30 extension activities on promotion, prevention with high risks groups
	Research	
	Research studies carried out by faculty	15 Individual research studies 1 Multicentric study
	Scientific events	2 Integrated meetings; Presentation of posters and papers in other scientific events
	Information dissemination	1 book in process to be published 1 research report
	Networking	Established "Schools of Education Network on Drugs"

Project of Schools of Medicine

Pilot Project - Since 2004

Countries	Type Activities	Results
Brazil	Education	
	Faculty and students training	30 faculty and 360 students trained
	Curriculum development	1 Drug curriculum implemented (transversal)
	Evaluation and monitoring	Informal evaluation through technical reports and during official missions to the projects
	Specific capacity -building	1 continuing education seminars on drug phenomenon and international health
	Extension	
	Activities carried out at the community level	4 extension activities on prevention with high risks groups
	Research	
	Research studies carried out by faculty	10 Individual research studies
	Scientific events	2 Integrated meetings; Presentation of posters and papers in other scientific events
	Information dissemination	5 abstract published; 5 papers published
	Networking	Not yet

Research Graduate Programs in Collaboration with Universities or Research Institutes

Specialization Degree

On-Line Regional Research Program Applied to Study of the Drug Phenomenon in Latin America – EERP-SP/Brazil – Initial funding by Japan, then US and Brazil. In 2009 Brazil is taking over this program. From 2002 to 2007 this program graduated 200 participants, and published 80 articles in 4 supplements of the Latin American Journal of Nursing.

Masters Degree:

On-Line Drug-Dependency Program (Ibero-Americano) - Initial funding by Spain and later US. The program is currently in the process of restructuring.

Post-Doctoral Program:

International Research Program Applied to Study of the Drug Phenomenon in Latin America - (Univ. of Alberta in 2003, and from 2006 with Center for Drug Addiction and Mental Health – CAMH) – Funded by Canada. The program has graduated 41 participants, and is publishing 20 articles and two hemispheric reports.

Impact of Professional Development Programs

University

- n Increased the number of faculty and students trained on drug related issues;
- n Created new drug curriculum models for undergraduate and graduate levels;
- n Developed drug prevention awareness and services to assist students;
- n Increased the number of promotion and preventive activities by the participating schools at community level;
- n Create drug research groups and multicentric studies;
- n Increased the number of faculty trained in research methodologies to study drug related issues;
- n Increased the number of scientific publication on drug demand reduction;
- n Established an inter-institutional network among participating universities;
- n Established a relationship between participating universities and National Drug Commissions in the area of drug demand reduction;

Impact of Professional Development Programs (2)

Professional

- n Created new job opportunities;
- n Offered to the job market qualified health related professionals on drug demand reduction;
- n Created a cadre of health related professionals with expertise on drug demand reduction;

Demand Reduction

- n New leadership and partnership models to work with universities;
- n Innovative drug curriculum for undergraduate and graduate levels
- n Increased the scientific knowledge on drug demand reduction;
- n Still need to be monitored and evaluated the direct or indirect impact of new graduates on drug demand reduction in the countries;

Future Prospects of Professional Development Programs in the Demand Reduction Area

- n Development of long-term partnerships with universities for new initiatives;
- n Continuation of the inclusion of the drug theme within the curricula to other disciplines, such as psychology, physical education, social worker, etc.;
- n Establishment of a minimum hours required for the drug curriculum for the areas of public health, education and medicine;
- n Expand the schools of medicine, public health and education to other universities in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- n Development of specific drug capacity-building programs for health and related professionals who are at the work place;
- n Use the CICAD experience to develop new integrated projects at national level;

Future Prospects of Professional Development Programs in the Area Demand Reduction (2)

- n Continuity of faculty capacity-building on research methods to study drug related issues, and strengthen drug research groups at university level;
- n Strengthening the partnership among CICAD, Universities and National Drug Commissions for monitoring and evaluation of projects and programs;
- n Development of a monitoring system for graduates at work place in partnership with Professional Associations and National Drug Commissions;
- n Creation of international networking of Universities who are promoting professional development on drug issues;
- n CICAD and National Drug Commissions need to share resources for projects and programs implementation at country level;
- n CICAD and National Drug Commissions need to diversify their sources of funding for long-term support of projects and programs in order to achieve expected results and impact;

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

Organization of American States

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