

XI MEETING EXPERT GROUP ON DEMAND REDUCTION

ROLE OF INFORMATION SYSTEMS IN THE
DEVELOPMENT OF DRUG TREATMENT POLICIES.
WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW?

FRANCISCO CUMSILLE, Dr.P.H
OID/CICAD

Mexico, 2009



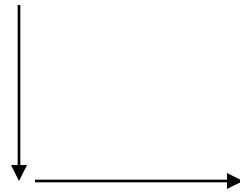
Organization of
American States



DECISION THEORY

Organization of American States

Policy formulation



Decision-making

Decision theory can be defined as the logical, quantitative analysis of all factors that affect the results of a decision **in an uncertain world.**



AS PER PREVIOUS DEFINITION WE HAVE:

- FACTORS
- ANALYSIS
- DECISION.

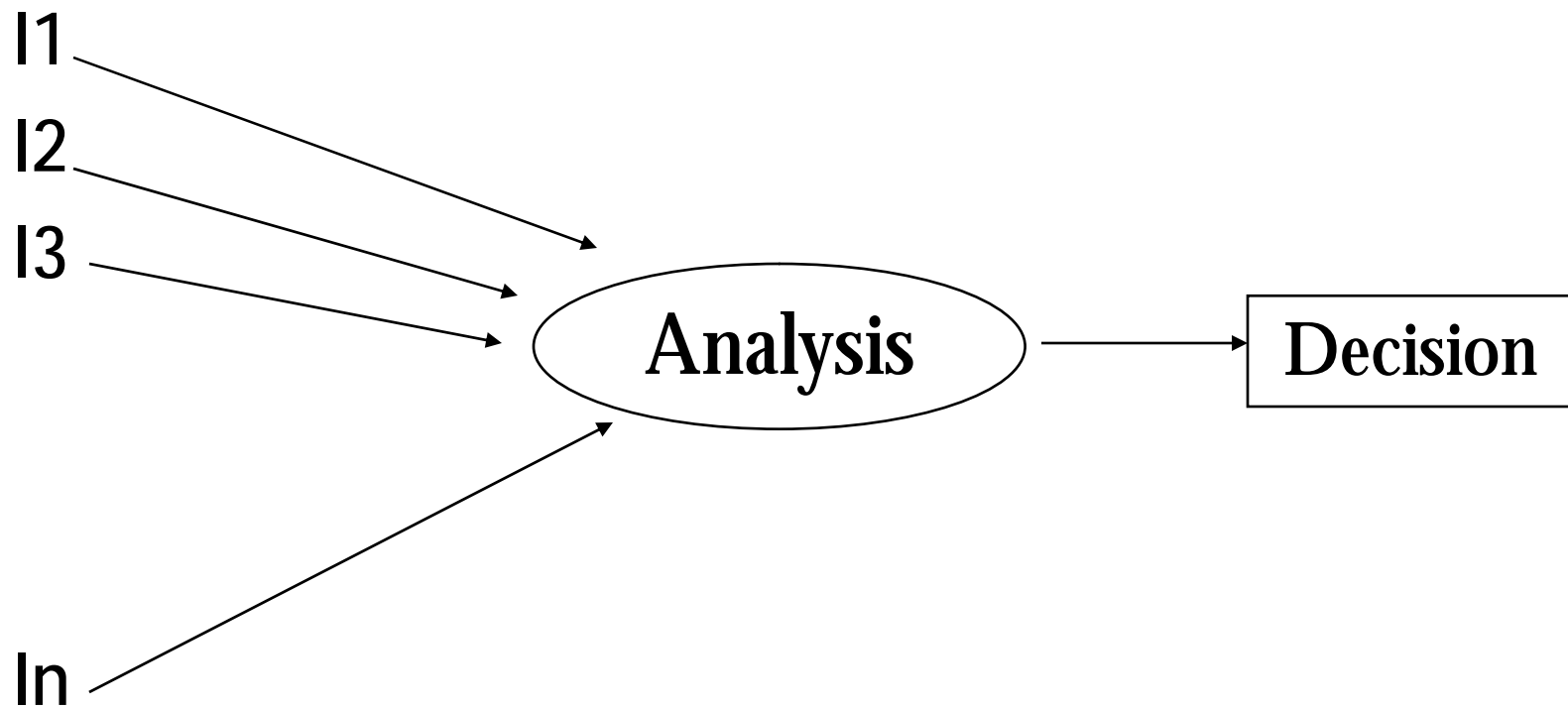
IN OTHER WORDS:

- INFORMATION
- ANALYSIS
- DECIDING WHAT TO DO (POLICIES, PROGRAMS, etc..)



DECISION THEORY

Organization of American States





EXAMPLE

Ø AGE=50 YEARS

Ø SEX=MALE

Ø S.A.P/D.A.P=130/90

Ø DIAGNOSIS= AHT?



Ø A PROBLEM MAY HAVE MORE THAN ONE SOLUTION; HOWEVER, THE *BEST* SOLUTION WILL BE THE ONE THAT IS BASED ON THE BEST INFORMATION.



QUALITY OF THE DECISION

Organization of American States

INFORMATION	<p><u>NDO</u>: CAPACITY TO GENERATE AND/OR COLLECT INFO.</p> <p><u>OTHER</u>: UNIVERSITY</p>
ANALYSIS	<p><u>NDO</u>: CAPACITY TO COMBINE INFORMATION FROM DIFFERENT ORIGINS, ANALYZE IT AND DISSEMINATE IT</p> <p><u>OTHER</u>: UNIVERSITY</p>
DECISION	<p><u>AUTHORITIES</u>: USE THE RESULTS OF THE ANALYSIS</p>



QUALITY OF THE DECISION

Organization of American States

- PERFECT INFORMACION: Decision-making in a condition of certainty. The data are known.
- IMPERFECT OR PARTIAL INFORMACION: Two situations :
 - Risky Decisions:
 - Some data available
 - Uncertain Decisions:
 - No data available



BASIC PRINCIPLES

- **INFORMATION FOR ACTION**
- **EVIDENCE-BASED POLICIES**



WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED?

- POPULATION:
 - OCCASIONAL/EXPERIMENTAL USERS
 - FREQUENT USERS, NOT PROBLEMATIC
 - PROBLEM USERS:
 - ABUSE
 - DEPENDENCE



WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED?

- POPULATION:
 - PROBLEM USERS:
 - HOW TO ASSESS?. INSTRUMENTS?
 - ICD-10, DSM-IV, AUDIT etc....



SOME RESULTS

- POTENTIAL POPULATION: EXAMPLES
- ARGENTINA, CHILE, ECUADOR, PERU, URUGUAY: MARIHUANA
 - 500,000 MEET CRITERIA FOR DEPENDENCE
 - 26% OF USERS IN PAST YEAR
 - 1.2% GENERAL POPULATION



SOME RESULTS

- COLOMBIA: ALCOHOL
 - 2.4 MILLION ABUSE/DEPENDENCE
 - 12% POPULATION OF THE COUNTRY AGED 12 TO 65 AÑOS
- USA (SAMHSA, 2008): ANY DRUG (NOT INCL. ALCOHOL)
 - 6.8 MILLION MEET CRITERIA FOR ABUSE OR DEPENDENCE
 - 2.8% GENERAL POPULATION 12 YEARS AND OLDER



SOURCE OF INFORMATION

- GENERAL POPULATION SURVEY
 - ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT SOURCES OF INFORMATION
 - PERIODIC
 - SAME METHODOLOGY
 - HAS LIMITATIONS



COMBINE WITH OTHER SOURCES

- PRIMARY CARE
- UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
- LABOR FORCE
- PRISONERS
- Etc...



PURPOSE

- ESTIMATE NUMBER OF PERSONS WITH ABUSE/DEPENDENCE
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- TYPES OF DRUGS: POLYCONSUMPTION



OVERALL PICTURE IN THE HEMISPHERE

- **GREAT VARIABILITY:**
 - IN MAGNITUDE
 - IN PROBLEM USE (greater in countries with lower prevalence?)
 - IN TYPES OF DRUGS
 - A CONSTANT: ALCOHOL

 - THIS MEANS DIFFERENCES IN DEMAND



OPEN QUESTION

- **WHAT PERCENTAGE RECOGNIZE THEIR PROBLEM AND SEEK SERVICES?**
- **5%?, 10%?, 15%? MORE?, LESS?.....**
- **HOW DOES THIS FIGURE COMPARE WITH AVAILABLE SLOTS?**



TREATMENT CENTER

- **IS THERE A COMPLETE REGISTRY?**
- **WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS?**
- **HOW MANY PATIENTS BEING TREATED?**



PATIENTS IN TREATMENT

- **VITAL NEED FOR AN INTEGRATED PATIENT REGISTRY SYSTEM.**
 - HOW MANY?
 - PROFILES?
 - MODALITY OF CARE?
 - PROFESSIONAL CARE.



PATIENTS IN TREATMENT

- **NEED FOR FOLLOW-UP AND EVALUATION.**
 - **DEFINE INDICATORS OF “TREATMENT SUCCESS”**
 - **RESEARCH IN CONJUNCTION WITH UNIVERSITIES**



PATIENTS IN TREATMENT: EXAMPLES

	Mar.	Cocaine	Crack	Pasta	Heroin
C. Rica	813	592	1,773		
Chile	1,168	1,723		4,495	
Argentina	800	725	9	282	
Dom.R.	108	618	998		62
Panama	236	164	480		
Mexico		5,668	3,948		2,543



ROLE OF NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORIES OR EQUIVALENT

- **RESPONSABLE FOR SYSTEMS OF INFORMATION IN SUPPORT OF POLICIES.**
- **IN GENERAL, CURRENTLY WEAK**
- **FEW RESOURCES, INSUFFICIENT PROFESSIONAL STAFF**



Regional Summit on the World Drug Problem, Security and Cooperation, Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, July 30 & 31 and August 1, 2008

- Heads of State and of Government and/or Heads of Delegation of the countries of the Caribbean, Central America, Colombia, Mexico and Venezuela commit to:



Cartagena Summit

- Promote the creation or strengthening of national drug observatories in the countries of the region, and work jointly, as appropriate, with CICAD's Inter-American Observatory on Drugs, or other bilateral or multilateral cooperation entities that facilitate the participation of interested States, in order to develop information systems and statistics in support of decision-making and the formulation of national policies to counteract the world drug problem and related offenses;



Organization of American States

RESEARCH