

 <p>17th St. & Constitution Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006 United States of America</p> <p>Organization of American States</p> <p>P. 202.458.3000 www.oas.org</p>	<p>INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION CICAD</p> <p>Secretariat for Multidimensional Security</p>
<p>FIFTY-FOURTH REGULAR SESSION December 11 - 13 , 2013 Bogotá, Colombia</p>	<p>OEASer.L/XIV.2.54 CICAD/doc.2057/13 10 December 2013 Original: Español</p>

**THE ROLE OF RESEARCH IN DRUG POLICY IN COLOMBIA
JULIAN DAVID WILCHES, DIRECTOR OF DRUG POLICY AND RELATED ACTIVITIES, MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
AND LAW**

 <p>MinJusticia Ministerio de Justicia y del Derecho</p>	 <p>PROSPERIDAD PARA TODOS</p>
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**The role of research in
drug policy in Colombia**

**CICAD
Fifty-fourth regular session
December 11-13, 2013**



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Research


A good practice for public policy

- Provides a framework for coherence and direction to the process of strategic planning.
- Allows for the best possible evidence for the development and implementation of public policies.
- Guides strategies and public policy actions.
- Allows for informed decision making.
- Provides quality, credibility and relevance to public policy.






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Research in Colombia


As a tool for public policy




Production
Consumption
Related activities



Public
Policy



Evidence based
decisions



KNOWLEDGE


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Colombia's Drug Observatory

Focus:

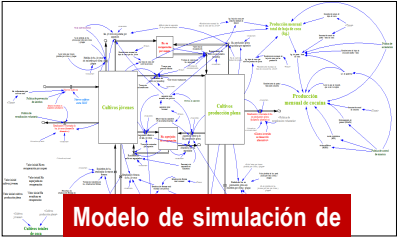
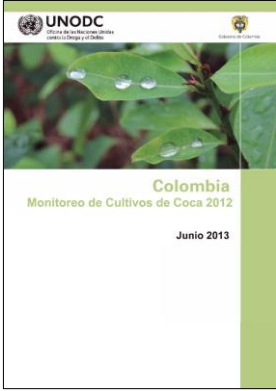

1. Turn data into knowledge.
2. Produce prospective investigation.



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Research in Colombia Examples




Modelo de simulación de la producción de cocaína

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SIMCI Project

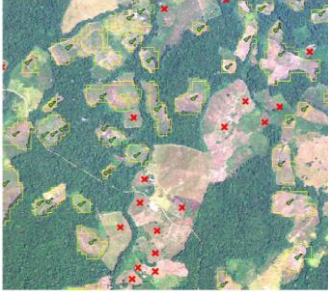

Integrated System for Illicit Crop Monitoring (UNODC)



Purpose: To develop mechanisms for monitoring, evaluation and verification of crops and drug production, in cooperation with UNODC .

Generates detailed technical information for program implementation.

Allows monitoring, evaluation, and reformulation of programs against illicit crops.



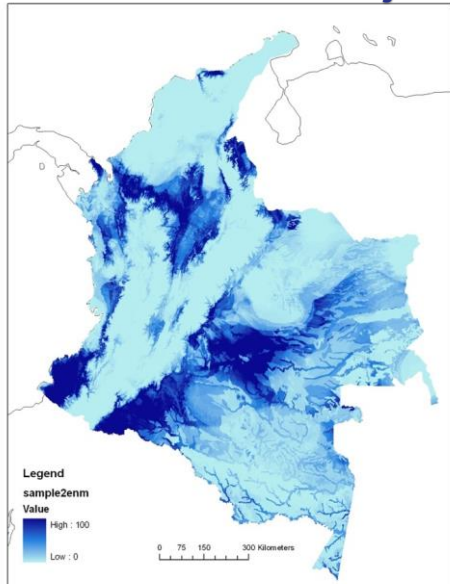
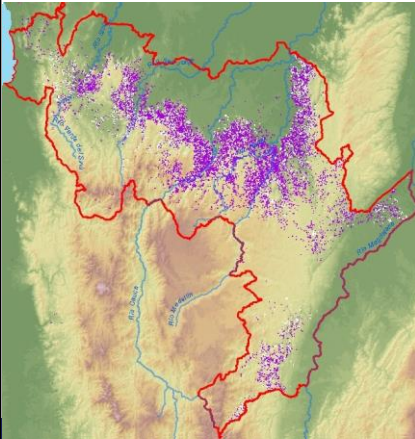
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Potential expansion →

Coca cultivation:





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Early Warning System

- The Early Warning System is the information exchange mechanism to mitigate and reduce the impact of emerging drugs.
- Search for early detection, risk assessment and generation of reliable information for authorities and the community in general.
- Building a virtual space for information exchange between institutions and actors in the system.
- Promote rapid action by the authorities responsible for drug supply control.



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Early Warning System

Phases:

Detection of new substances


Characterization of new substances

Evaluation of health and security risks

Generate early warnings



* Evidence based actions




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Early Warning System

Sources of information:

Source of information	Type of information
National Police	Seizures New drugs and-or patterns Cases
Attorney General's Office	Seizures, forensic analysis on purity, chemical composition, cases, other
Legal Medicine	Detection of substances in cases prosecuted
National Narcotics Fund	New drugs or drug precursors Cases of diversion
National Institute of Health Urgent Care Centers through the emergency report - SIVIGILA	Toxicological Emergencies caused by spa consumption



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Early Warning System

Sources of information :

Source of information	Type of information
NGOs and professionals related to harm reduction programs	Consumption of emerging drugs, use patterns, contexts, populations
Departmental committees for prevention	New drugs and-or patterns
Epidemiological studies on spa consumption	Consumption of new drugs, increase in prevalence
Studies on drug production	Cutting usbstances
Treatment centers for consumers through case reports ODC Patient Registry	New drugs and-or patterns



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Early Warning System

LSD adulterated with new psychoactive substance



- LSD is the second most commonly used illicit drug among university students in Colombia, after marijuana. (II epidemiological study PRADICAN 2012).
- Users reported strange effects and characteristics of LSD circulating in the country through social networks and organizations.
- CTI Chemistry Laboratory of the Attorney General's Office analyzed different samples of LSD consumed in the country with gas chromatography.
- 25C-NBOMe and 25B-NBOMe were the substances identified. These are new hallucinogenic drugs with very high power and unknown effects in the medium and long term, which were introduced to the European market through the Internet in 2010.
- Several countries record deaths and intoxications related to these new drugs. The substances are not controlled nationally or internationally.

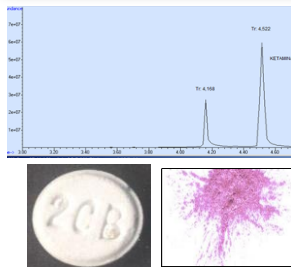


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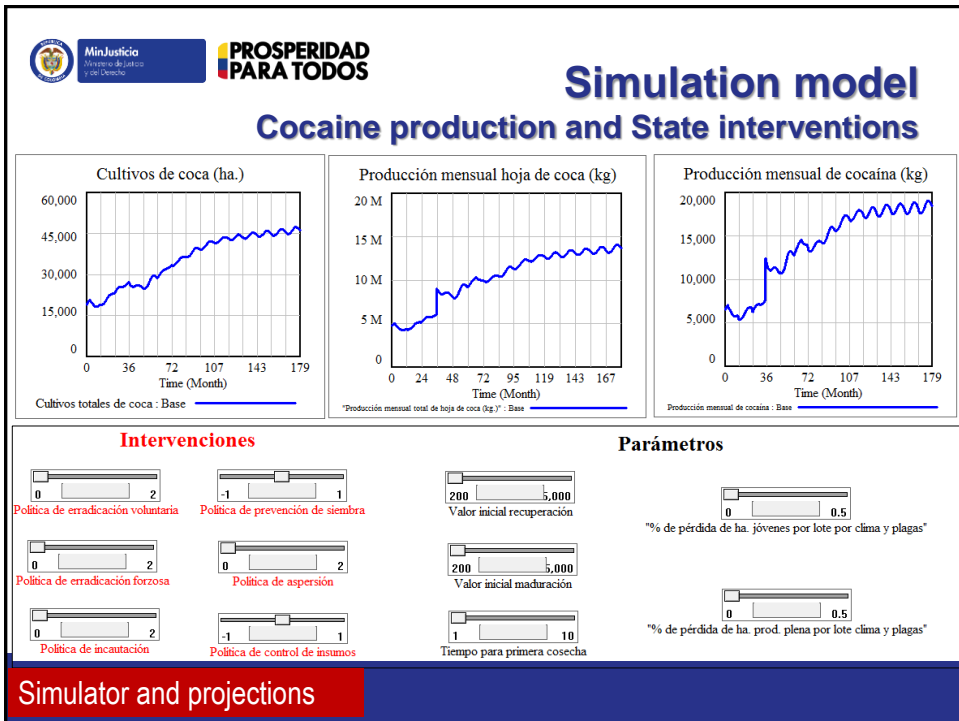
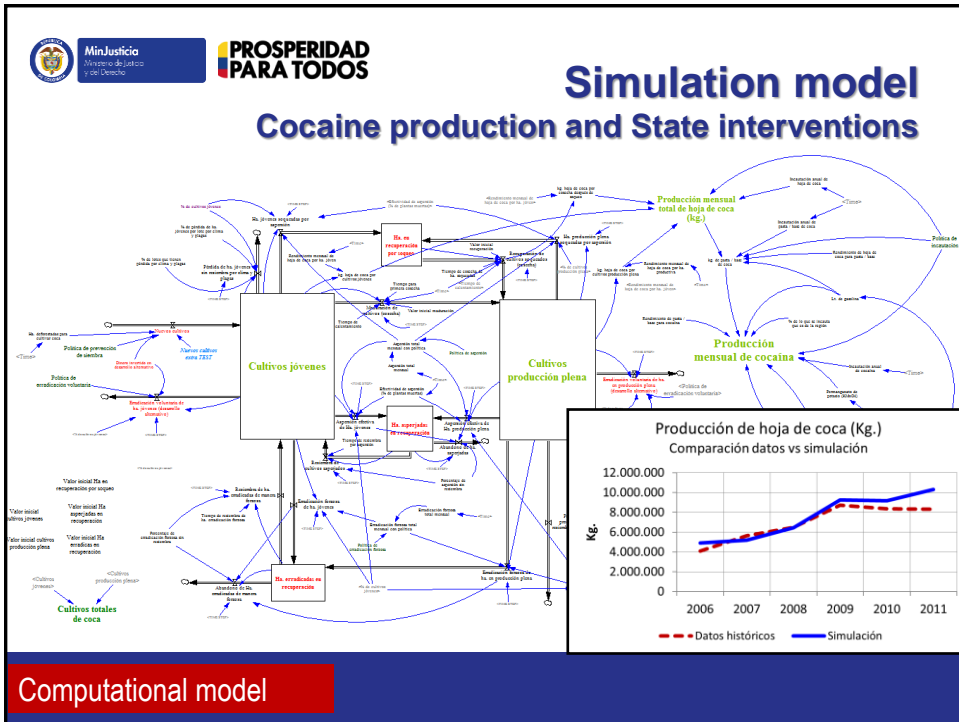
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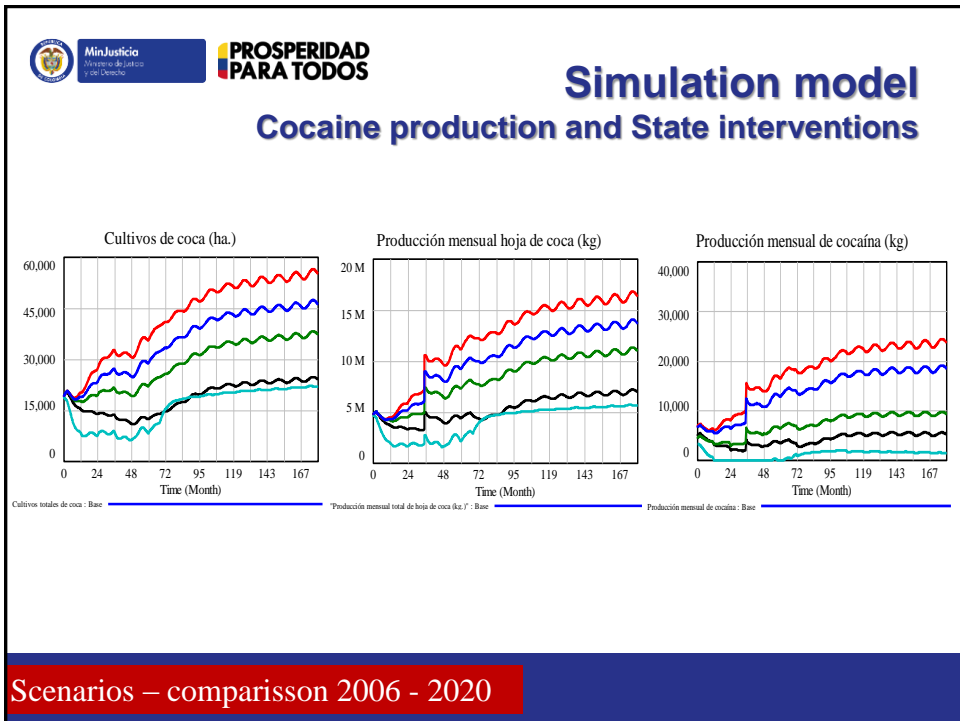
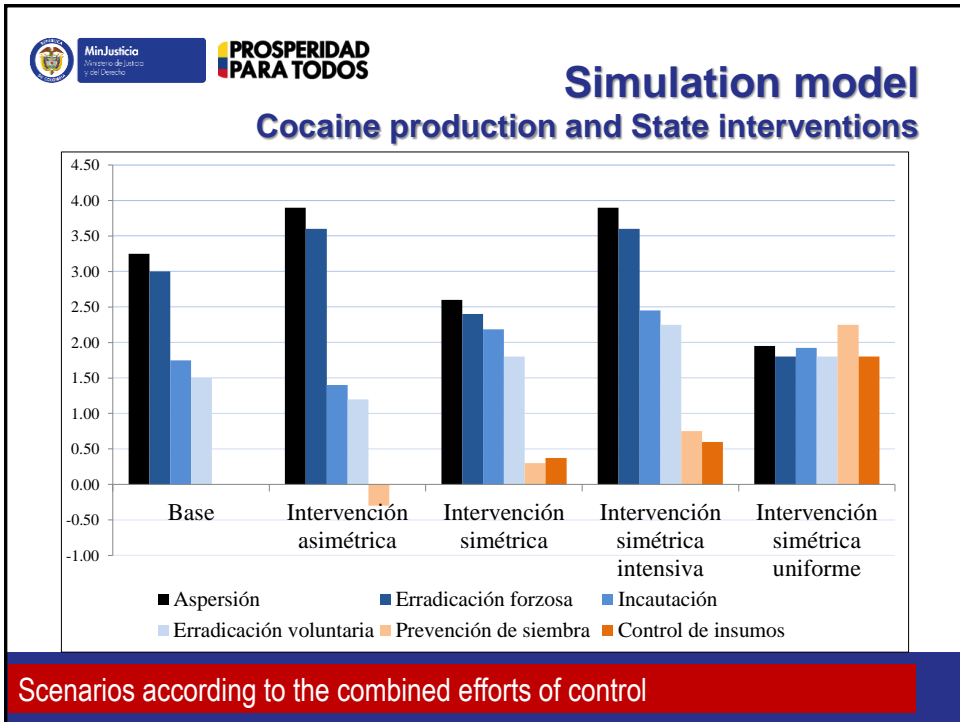
Early Warning System

The 2C-B that circulates in the contry is fake



- 2C-B is a synthetic hallucinogenic drug of the phenethylamines group, audited nationally and international ly.
- There were two cases of seizures this year of 3000 and 4000 dose, respectively, of a drug allegedly marketed as 2C-B in Valle del Cauca.
- The drug is marketed in the country in the form of colored powders that can be swallowed or inhaled. It is offered as an exclusive drug for over 100 thousand Colombian pesos a gram.
- CTI Chemistry Laboratory of the Attorney General's Office analyzed different samples of 2C-B which is consumed in the country with gas chromatography.
- 2C-B was not identified. Instead, ketamine and other unknown substance was found. Ketamine is an addictive drug with serious damage to the health of those who abuse it.





Scenarios – comparisson 2006 - 2020



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Simulation model Cocaine production and State interventions

- Coordinated and balanced interventions generate greater impacts on the control over the production of cocaine. For example the projection for the Pacific region in 2006-2020 :
 - 48% reduction of crops (-22.000 Ha aprox.) in 2020.
 - Reduction of coca leaf production : 48%.
 - Reduction in cocaine production: 70%
 - Even a balanced coordinated intervention achieves comparable results to a radical intervention (intensive)
- Importance of fully understanding how the chain of production works:
 - Some interventions generate greater impacts than others
 - Impact of sowing prevention; marginally higher.
- Importance of long-term projections.
- Scalable and replicable tool (i.e.: by region, tuning details, including additional areas of interest, etc.).



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Key challenges

- Make effective use of scientific evidence in the revision and formulation of public policies.
- Create synergies between public and private entities, as well as NGOs around the generation and effective use of scientific evidence.
- Define and improve the flow of information through an IT tool
- Ensure technical and institutional capacities generated from scientific evidence through research processes.





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Thank you

Ministry of Justice and Law
Directorate of Drug Policy and Related Activities
Colombian Observatory on Drugs

