



National Anti-Narcotics Agency (NANA)

- NANA was established by a cabinet decision in July, 2017 and became operationalized in October, 2017.
- The agency falls under the Ministry of Public Security
- NANA was developed to oversee the coordination of agencies responsible for the implementation of the **National Drug Strategy Master Plan** (2016-2020) and to develop evidence based drug policies and programs.

NATIONAL DRUG STRATEGY MASTER PLAN 2016-2020

The strategy focuses on the following areas:

- Demand Reduction
- Supply Reduction
- Control Measures
- Institutional Strengthening & Policy Coordination
- International Cooperation

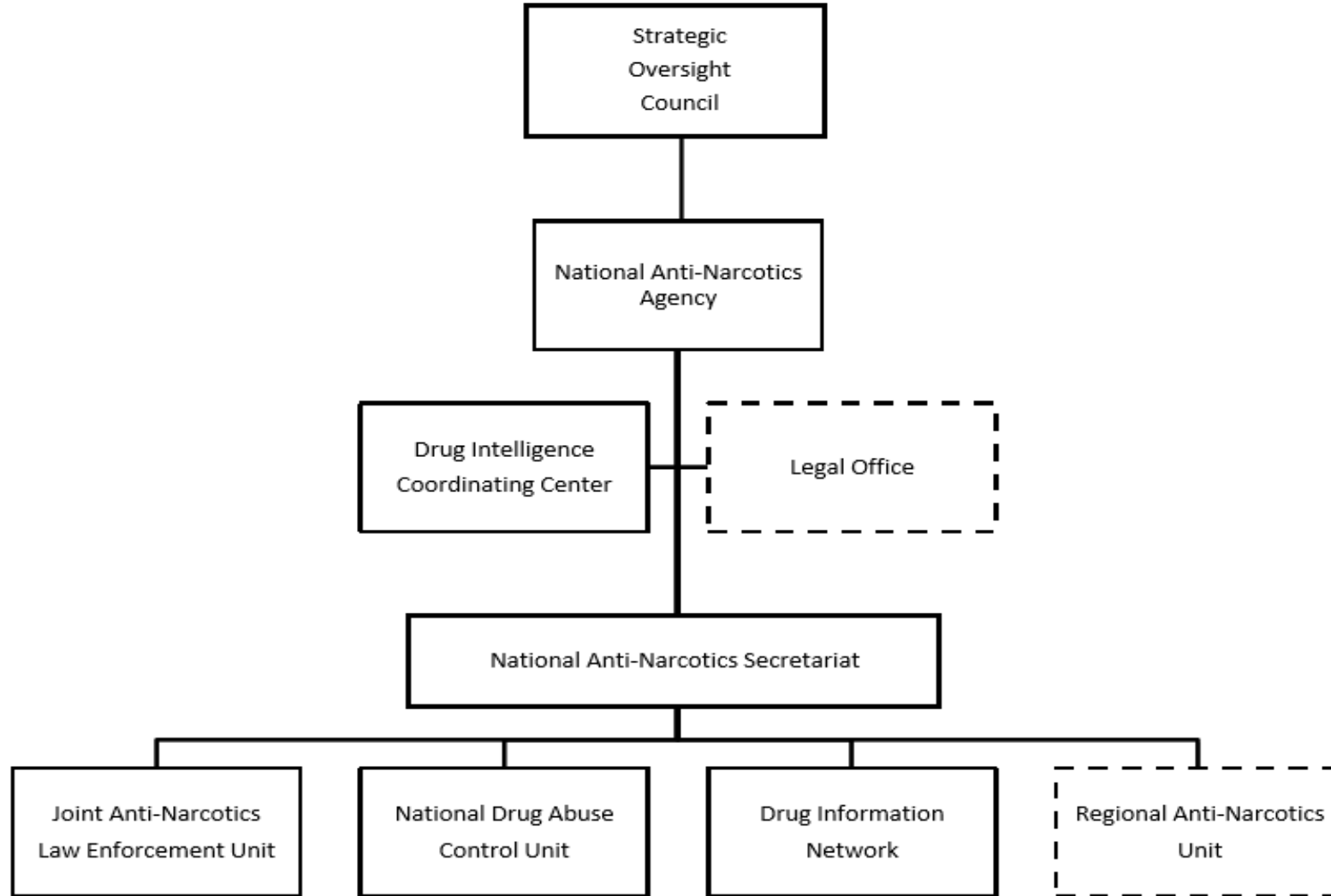
GOALS OF NANA

- Plan, implement, strengthen and update national evidence based strategies on drugs.
- Coordinate and support agencies concerned with the effective planning and implementation of national drug policy such as the Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Social Protection.
- Strengthen the National Drug Information Network (DIN) to gather and analyse timely and reliable data on all aspects of the drug problem.
- Carry out research to determine the human, social and economic cost of the drug problem.

OBJECTIVES OF NANA

1. Monitor and assess implementation of the NDSMP
2. Update drug policies
3. Conduct studies, accumulate, and coordinate drug related statistics and other related information.
4. Strengthen the national Drug Information Network (DIN) to generate, collect, analyse and disseminate information.

STRUCTURE OF THE NATIONAL ANTI-NARCOTICS AGENCY



The Governance Structure of NANA

The Strategic Oversight Council

Consist of a cross section of government agencies and provides overall strategic direction to NANA. This body is chaired by the President and consists of the following

- The Prime Minister
- The Minister of Public Security
- Minister of State
- Minister of Legal Affairs
- Minister of Public Health
- Minister of Education
- Minister of Social Protection
- Director of the Agency
- Chief of Staff of the Guyana Defence Force
- Commissioner of Police

The Governance Structure of NANA

To guide policy decisions on both supply and demand reduction, two inter-agency units have been developed

The Joint Anti-Narcotics Law Enforcement Unit

This unit consists of law enforcement agencies and advises NANA on national counter drug and security initiatives

The National Drug Abuse Control Unit

Focuses on the demand reduction aspect of the drug problem including prevention, public awareness, treatment and rehabilitation and re-integration.

The Governance Structure of NANA

The Drug Intelligence Coordination Center

This center is responsible for the gathering of intelligence on drugs and associated crimes to inform appropriate counter drug operations.

- Customs Anti-Narcotics Unit (CANU)
- Guyana Defence Force (GDF)
- Guyana Police Force (GPF)
- Ministry of the Presidency

The Regional Anti-Drug Units

This unit is established to coordinate with local governments to ensure that the work of NANA is extended to the 10 administrative regions.

The Governance Structure of NANA

The Drug Information Network (DIN)

This network consists of a wide cross section of agencies. Its mission is to develop national drug information systems and foster systematic research on the drug problem for the purpose of monitoring trends, developing policy, and implementing appropriate programmes and responses.

The DIN was established in 2011.

Studies carried out by GUY-DIN

- National Household Drug Prevalence Study 2016 and Rapid Situational Assessment
 - Alcohol and Marijuana remains as the most prevalent licit and illicit substances used
 - Ecstasy use appears to be high among the party scenes
 - Marijuana is easily accessible
- Standardized Treatment Intake Form in 2 private treatment facilities and more recently the Public Hospitals
- Risk Assessment in Region 7 (Bartica)
 - Conducted by the Drug Demand Reduction Unit of the Ministry of Public Health
 - DIN is providing technical support to analyse the data.

New Trends of Drug Use in Guyana

- Based on the data that is being collected from treatment centres bi-annually, it was revealed that 'Mushrooms' are being smoked to get a new high.
- The counsellors of the Salvation Army Men's Social Centre were called upon to carry out drug prevention awareness sessions at the Brickdam Secondary School; based on the findings during those sessions it was discovered that students are using a concoction of cough syrup and sprite (better known as lean) to get high.
- Research also shows that persons are misusing 'Pain-O-Soma'. This drug is a muscle relaxant used for treatment of acute and chronic pain. It gives a high.

Challenges

- While we do have a DIN consisting of a wide cross section of agencies and we are able to produce annual reports, we do face the following challenges:
 - receiving requested data on time
 - quality of data received
 - needs more capacity building
 - needs system to develop more reliable database
 - finances

THANK YOU