

SIXTY-EIGHTH REGULAR SESSION OF CICAD
December 9 - 11, 2020
Bogotá, D.C., Colombia

OEA/Ser.L/XIV.2.68
CICAD/doc.2550/20
8 December 2020
Original: Español

CRIMINALIZATION OF DRUG USE V. IMPUNITY FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING PROMOTED BY AUTHORITIES IN VENEZUELA



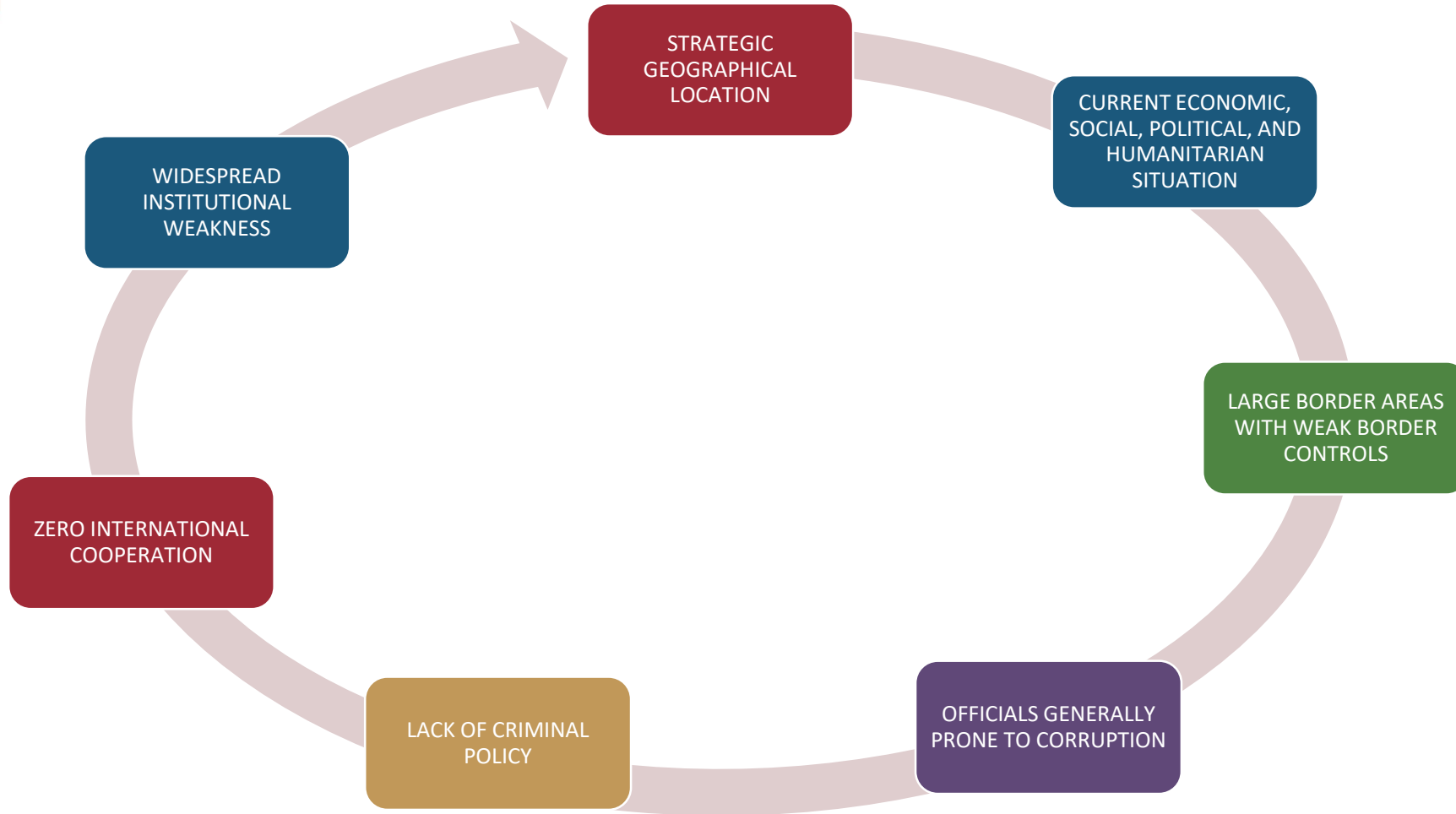
Criminalization of drug use
v.
Impunity for drug trafficking promoted by
authorities in Venezuela

Attorney Zair Manuel Mundaray Rodríguez

Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

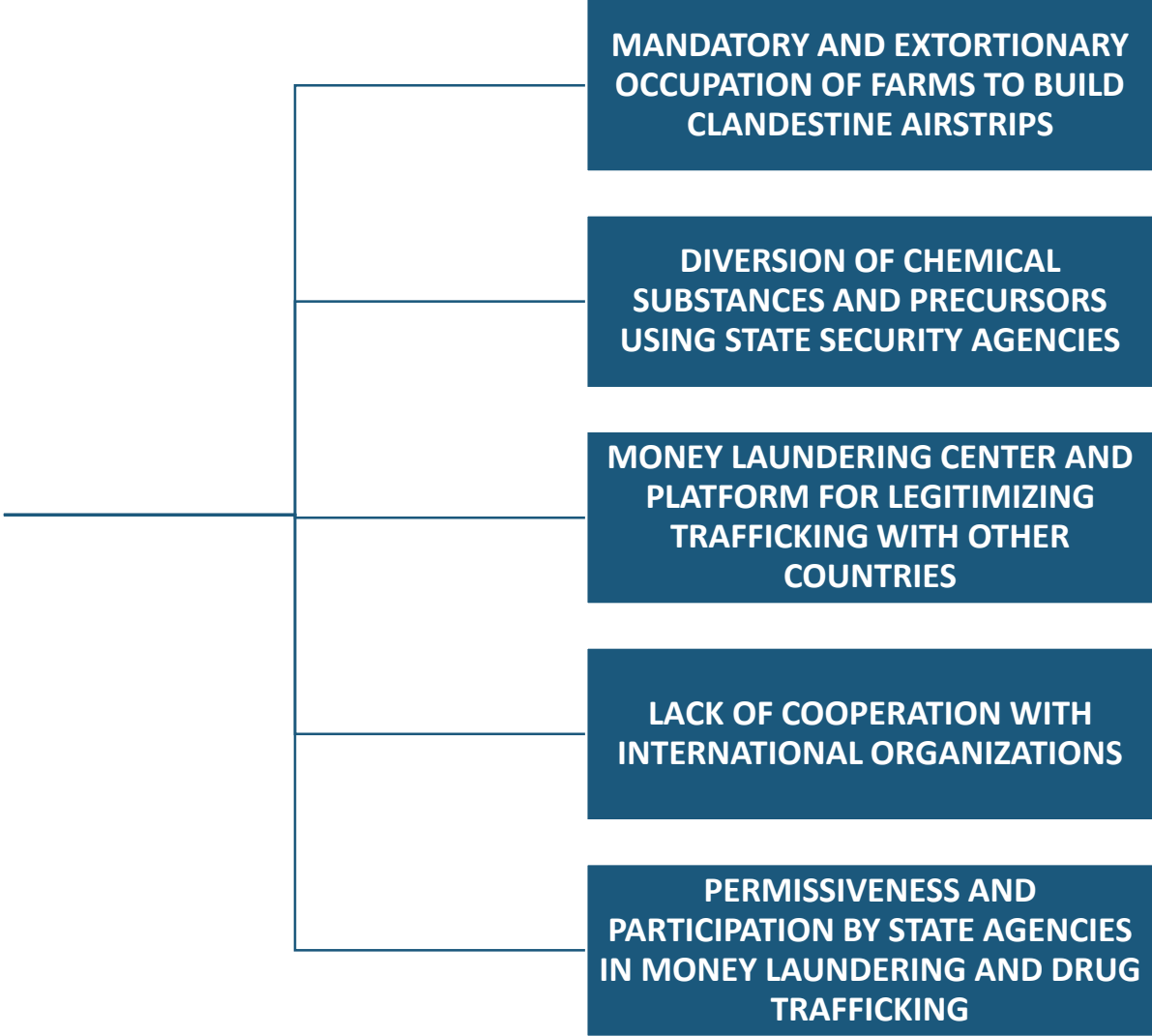


Factors fostering drug trafficking in Venezuela



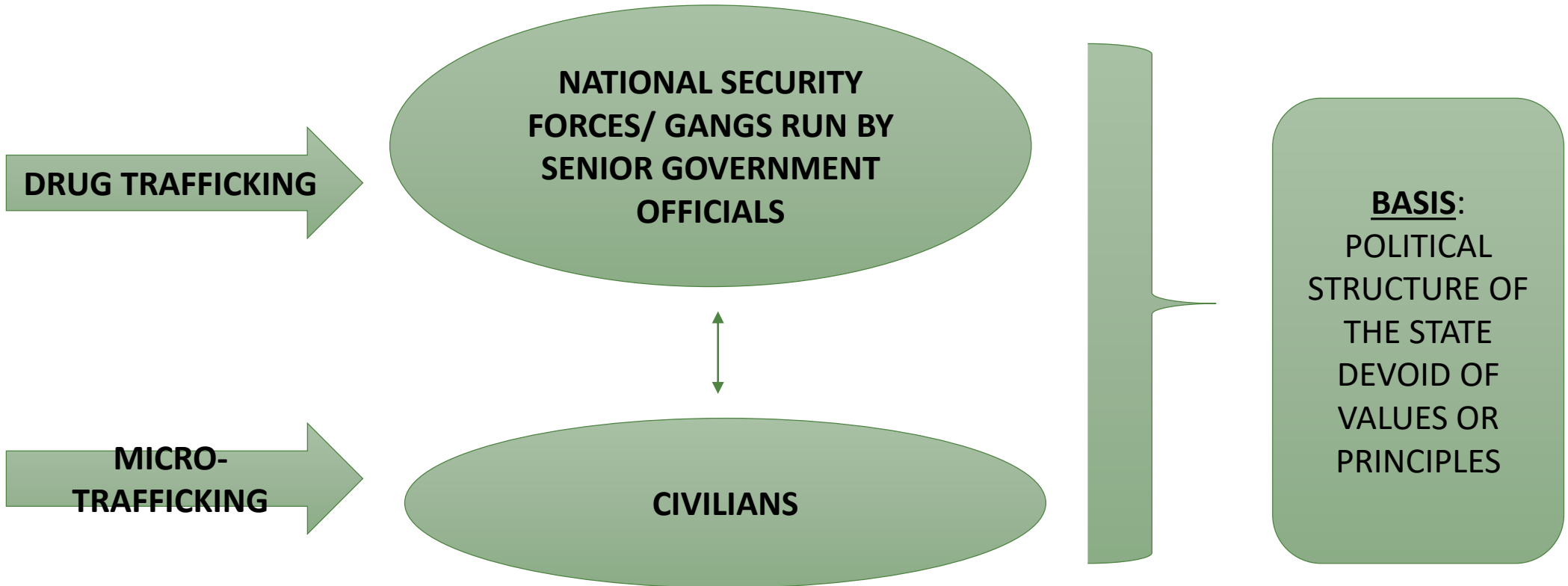


**LOCAL
FEATURES OF
THE DRUGS
PHENOMENON
IN VENEZUELA**





STRUCTURE AND PRINCIPAL PLAYERS IN DRUG TRAFFICKING IN VENEZUELA



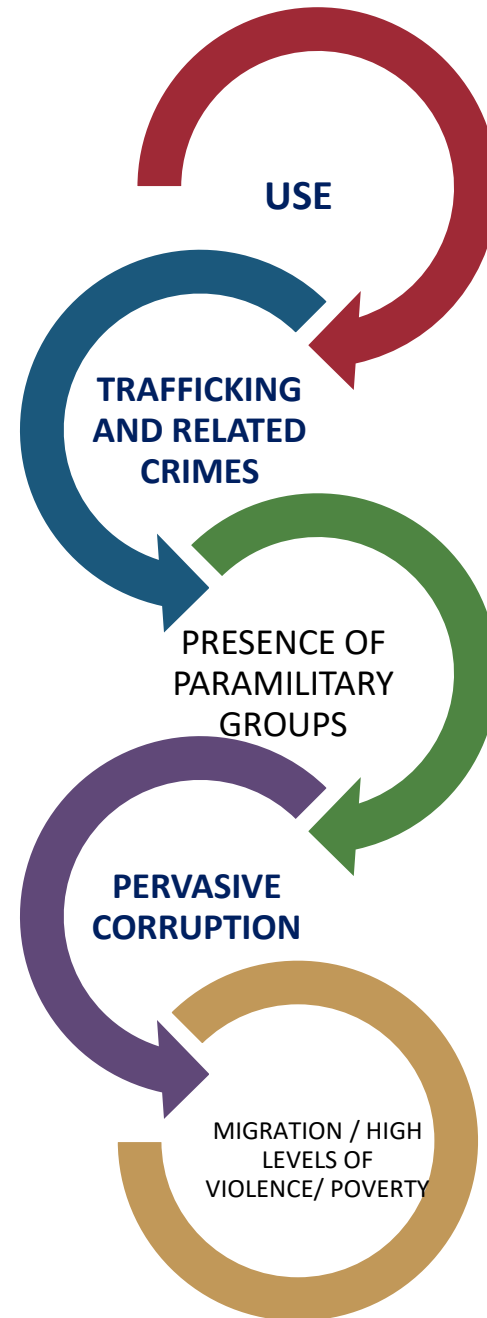


SOME CAUSES OF THE DRUG SUB-CULTURE/ DRUG USE AND PARTICIPATION IN MICRO-TRAFFICKING



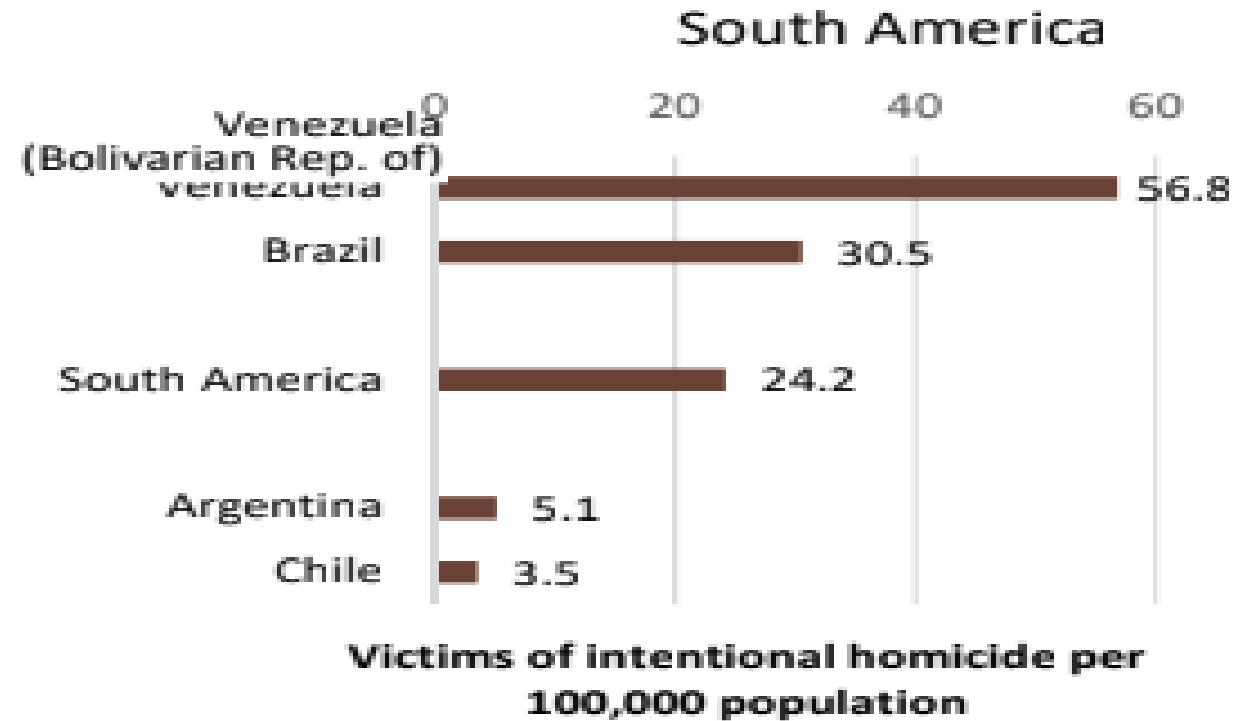


CONSEQUENCES: INCREASED





LEVEL OF VIOLENCE IN VENEZUELA COMPARED TO SOUTH AMERICA



GLOBAL STUDY ON HOMICIDE

Homicide trends, patterns and criminal justice response

2019

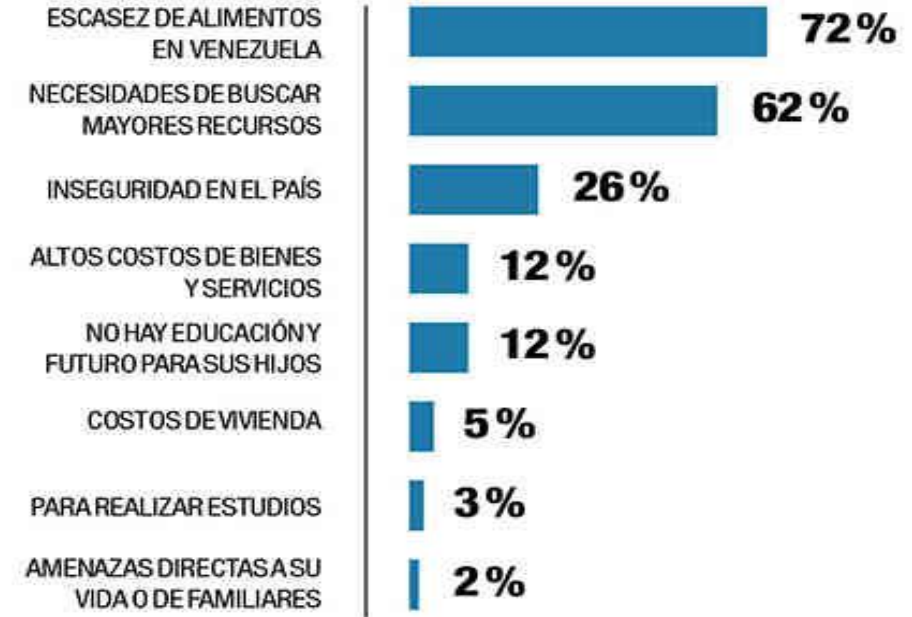


MIGRATION AND ITS CAUSES

¿POR QUÉ DECIDIÓ VENIR A COLOMBIA?



¿POR QUÉ DECIDIÓ SALIR DE VENEZUELA?



[Key to Slide 8 translation: See last slide]. Specifications: Company conducting the survey: Jaime Arteaga & Asociados. Individual or legal entity that commissioned it: Proyecto Migración Venezuela. Source of funding: ACDIVOCA-Usaid (2019)



ELIMINATION OF POLICIES IN FAVOR OF PROVIDING TREATMENT FOR DRUG USERS

- **Article 11 OF THE ORGANIC LAW ON DRUGS:** Public system for addiction care and treatment.
- **Article 12 OF THE ORGANIC LAW ON DRUGS:** Provide education and training for work, granting top priority to social plans, programs, and projects.
- **Article 141 OF THE LAW ON DRUGS:** Procedure in drug use cases. Anyone found consuming narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, or who describes himself or herself as a drug user, or who is in possession of such substances in amounts not higher than the dose shall be required to undergo screening for drugs in urine, blood, or other body fluids. In addition, the substance seized shall be subject to chemical and/or botanical tests.



CONSEQUENCES OF ELIMINATING CERTAIN POLICIES IN FAVOR OF TREATING USERS:

- **WITHOUT THESE MECHANISMS, A PERSON CAPTURED WITH DRUGS ENDS UP BEING TAKEN FOR A MICRO-TRAFFICKER IN THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM.**

[Key to Slide 8: WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO COME TO COLOMBIA? It was the least costly place to emigrate to. Job opportunities. I had family or friends there to help me get settled. It offers plenty of opportunities for Venezuelans. Because I possess Colombian nationality. It was the closest country. Other reasons. Don't know/Don't remember.]

WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO LEAVE VENEZUELA? Food shortages. Need to earn more income. Insecurity in Venezuela. High cost of goods and services. No education or future for my children. High cost of housing. To study. Direct threats to my life or that of family members.]