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MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

*Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:
Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit
Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and
Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their
Causes and Consequences*

Paraguay

Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS)

2022



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Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:

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EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND

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PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), established by a mandate from the Second Summit of the Americas (Santiago, Chile - 1998), is a unique multilateral evaluation tool designed to measure the progress made and challenges faced by the member states of the Organization of American States (OAS) in implementing the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs of the OAS Hemispheric Drug Strategy, currently in force.

The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS) is the OAS specialized agency in charge of implementing this Mechanism.

The current MEM round is based on the objectives of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 of the Hemispheric Drug Strategy 2020 and their respective priority actions. These documents take into account the recommendations of the outcome document of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) and the United Nations 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, as well as cross-cutting issues, such as the gender perspective and human rights, cultural context, and social inclusion approaches, among others.

Seven evaluation rounds have been completed from 1998 to 2019 and, during 2020, the MEM Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG), composed of member state delegates, agreed on a new methodology for the eighth round, consisting of annual thematic evaluations with the support of independent technical consultants, as follows: 2021 – Measures for Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support; 2022 – Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences; 2023 – Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; International Cooperation; and 2024 – Comprehensive Evaluation based on updated information from all thematic areas.

MEM evaluations are carried out based on information provided by the member states' National Coordinating Entities (NCEs), which is analyzed by the MEM Governmental Expert Group (GEG), composed of experts designated by the countries, who do not participate in their own country's evaluation, thus ensuring the transparency and impartiality of the process. The GEG is always supported by the group of independent technical consultants and the MEM Unit. The eighth round represents a more rigorous evaluation process, in which countries are requested to provide valid means of verification to support the information submitted and ensure compliance of each priority action.

Specifically, the GEG's work for the thematic assessment for the area of “Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences” was conducted during 2022, and covers the 2019 to 2022 period (unless otherwise specified). This work was adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic with

the use of technology and virtual tools, as well as taking it into consideration in the evaluation assessments.

Finally, it should be noted that one of the main purposes of MEM evaluation reports is to serve as a useful diagnostic tool to identify opportunities for improvement in drug policies and strategies, both at the national and regional levels.

OBJECTIVE**1**

DEVELOP AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL- AND REGIONAL-LEVEL INTERDICTION CAPACITY, AS WELL AS THE CAPACITY TO REDUCE THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND DISTRIBUTION OF PLANT-BASED AND SYNTHETIC DRUGS THROUGH THE USE OF COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED PROGRAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY'S DOMESTIC LEGISLATION AND RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.

Priority Action 1.1: Develop or strengthen intelligence and interdiction capabilities to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

Paraguay implements and participates in ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations. The training developed by the country is classified by the level of training, such as initial professional training, specialization training, and update training.

The professional-level training programs, particularly regarding drugs, are carried out through the Anti-Drug Research Institute, currently in the process of renewing its academic and organizational structure to respond to the different challenges associated with the fight against drug trafficking and organized crime.

The Institute of the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) is in charge of the initial training of Special Anti-Drug Agent candidates. Likewise, in accordance with the provisions of Law No. 6667, Art. 40 and 41, it is in charge of training and specialization courses for the different special agent ranks as they move up.

The training programs implemented in the Institute are ongoing and aim at the training or specialization requirements of each of the ranks. Strategic research partnerships with other training institutions at the national level have contributed with ongoing training programs at the specialization, master's, and doctorate levels through the Ministry of National Defense and its Institute of Higher Strategic Studies, which annually grants scholarships for training special agents at the different levels mentioned above.

The training of special agents at the national level—as well as the police officers of the Antinarcotics Unit and the Prosecutors of the Specialized Unit—is accomplished through the existing training programs in countries where international agreements are in place. The programs are carried out on a semi-annual and/or annual basis. In this sense, Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, and the United States, among other countries, maintain standing offers of academic training for national personnel.

Likewise, international organizations, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through programs, like CRIMEJUST, and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) provides ongoing academic instruction to special agents for theoretical and practical training on current issues.

The pandemic has had an impact on the training and education processes at different levels but

introduced virtuality starting in 2020. This has made it possible to broaden the training horizons, enabling access to different virtual academies that during the reporting period were made available to special agents.

Paraguay has protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. They include adequate safety and health measures for the personnel involved in dismantling laboratories or facilities, along with actions to minimize damage to the environment and optimize the handling of chemical and toxic waste.

Priority Action 1.2: Implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming in agencies and organizations in charge of drug control.

The following agencies in charge of drug control in Paraguay implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming:

- SENAD
- National Police – Anti-narcotics Department and Special Sensitive Anti-drug Intelligence Unit and Related Criminal Offenses
- Office of the Public Prosecutor – Specialized Units for the Fight against Drug Trafficking and the Fight against Organized Crime

Priority Action 1.3: Design, implement, and strengthen programs aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction.

Paraguay has programs and strategies aimed at land, riverine, and aerial drug interdiction, through monitoring, inspections, or checkpoints.

Priority Action 1.4: Review and update, as appropriate, legal frameworks related to the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques.

Paraguay has Law N° 1340/88 and Law N° 1881/02, providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking.

Priority Action 1.5: Review and/or update mechanisms countries use to monitor the evolution of drug trafficking and related crimes, for the purpose of identifying and responding to new trends and threats.

Paraguay does not have updated assessments and studies to identify new trends and threats on

drug trafficking and related crimes.

Priority Action 1.6: Define and implement coordinated actions between national and regional entities to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes.

Paraguay implements actions to identify organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, work is done through joint investigation teams involving the different national and international institutions applying special investigation techniques and international and national cooperation, within the framework of the established treaties and agreements.

The country carries out inter-institutional collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes. In this sense, information exchange channels are established through conventions, memorandums, and agreements with national institutions.

Paraguay has participated in the following operations and investigations in cooperation with other countries aimed at dismantling organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes:

- **Argentina:** Information exchange channels have been established and are fully operational. In addition, proposals have been finalized to carry out training courses for SENAD personnel in the area of supply reduction, as well as specific courses on controlling chemical precursors through institutions of the Argentine Republic, such as the Secretariat for Comprehensive Drug Policies of Argentina (SEDRONAR). As a direct result, operational information exchange channels have been established between SENAD and Argentine security institutions such as the Naval Prefecture, the National Gendarmerie, and the Police.

Also noteworthy is the work carried out between both countries in the so-called Integration Committee Meetings, attended by the security, customs, immigration, and tourism agencies—among others—involved in managing strategic points along the border. As a direct result, operational information exchange channels have been established between SENAD and Argentine security institutions such as the Naval Prefecture, the National Gendarmerie, and the Provincial Police.

In 2019, the Argentine authorities expressed interest in launching actions along the border with Argentina. Shortly after, in September 2019, Paraguay and Argentina began the first joint operation against marijuana. The National Gendarmerie and the Federal Intelligence Agency of Argentina strongly supported the actions of the Paraguayan agencies, headed by SENAD. Operation Integration was carried out in rural areas of the department of Itapúa.

- **Brazil:** SENAD and the Brazilian Federal Police (PF) operate within the framework of

agreements with a cooperation plan, framed within the principle of shared responsibility executed between the parties, with the objective of perfecting the fight against drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, within the framework of the provisions of the respective national legislation and bilateral instruments currently in force. This is while taking into account the operational competencies that correspond to the SENAD and the PF, according to the respective legal provisions regulating the jurisdictions of both entities.

The inter-agency cooperation program aims to define aspects of cooperation between the parties and to improve the fight against drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, within the framework of the agreement between Paraguay and Brazil. It also includes technical and logistical cooperation, intelligence matters, and dispute resolution.

- **United States:** Within the framework of bilateral cooperation between the Government of the United States of America and Paraguay, the SENAD is part of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) program called the Sensitive Investigation Unit (SIU), whose implementation is intended to disrupt criminal organizations dedicated to drug trafficking and related crime, as well as financially supporting the sensitive operations of SENAD. Toward this, they have provided sophisticated and sensitive equipment, as well as ongoing national and international training seminars for the personnel engaged in the program.

Under the DEA Program, SENAD achieved record-breaking results in terms of seizures, arrests, and disruption of drug trafficking organizations in recent years. It aims to continue focusing its efforts on the objective of reaching the main drug trafficking organizations that operate in Paraguay.

The DEA continues to support SENAD's efforts to improve institutional capacity to combat drug trafficking and related crimes.

Priority Action 1.7: Enhance the capacity of national and regional forensic laboratories or similar investigation entities to analyze and identify chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and facilitate information sharing with global repositories and across governmental counterparts.

Paraguay has the National Directorate of Sanitary Surveillance (DINAVISA) under the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare, as well as the Forensic Laboratory of the SENAD, which are responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS).

The country participates in ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS. In this sense, the national representatives of SENAD and the Ministry of Health have participated

in virtual training carried out during the evaluation period, offered by the UNODC and its different training programs. Likewise, it has participated in regional events for the exchange of information and lessons learned.

Paraguay has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including NPS. In this sense, SENAD and the Ministry of Public Health work together on aspects related to chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs.

For the investigation processes, work is done through the parameters established in the Agreements and Conventions established at the national and international levels, with the Records and Inspection Department being the competent agency for this purpose.

Priority Action 1.8: Enhance the capacity of relevant drug control and financial regulatory competent authorities to identify and address new challenges whereby synthetic drugs and their precursors and pharmaceutical products, being illicitly sold online and shipped through land, riverine, maritime, and aerial means.

Paraguay does not have mechanisms to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet.

Priority Action 1.9: Enhance coordination with private sector entities to prevent diversion of chemical substances and precursors and deny criminals access to the materials, platforms, and services of the licit supply chain, which are exploited by criminal organizations for the illicit manufacture, sale, and trafficking of drugs.

Paraguay has partnerships and information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes. These services are established through the signing of agreements, conventions and memorandum of understanding for developing joint actions for joint intervention on the ground.

The country uses tools and resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals. In order to optimize work with the private sector at the national level, strategic online tools provided by the INCB through the Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS) are used. This makes it possible to report incidents—particularly related to precursors—in real time. The national authorities intervene in these processes.

Priority Action 1.10: Enhance capacities for forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets.

Paraguay has national authorities with the appropriate budget, human and material resources, as well as ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets.

The competent personnel receive ongoing training for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets, through the National Secretariat for the Administration of Seized and Forfeited Assets (SENABICO), whose mission is to establish the appropriate mechanisms and procedures that allow an efficient and effective administration and destination of the assets obtained from Organized Crime, preserving their productivity or economic value, created by Law No. 5876/17 of Administration of Seized and Forfeited Assets, and whose operation is regulated by Decree No. 8668 of March 8, 2018.

OBJECTIVE

2

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES POSED BY NPS AND ILLICIT SYNTHETIC DRUGS, AND THE THREAT OF FENTANYL-RELATED SUBSTANCES, NON-MEDICAL SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS, AND ILLICIT AMPHETAMINE DERIVATIVES.

Priority Action 2.1: Establish and/or strengthen early warning systems (EWS) at the national level to promote collaboration and the exchange of information with other existing regional or international systems.

Paraguay has an early warning system (EWS) to identify and trace new psychoactive substances (NPS), illicit synthetic drugs, and the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, illicit amphetamine derivatives, and other substances subject to international control. This information is shared with other regional or global systems through the International Narcotics Control Board's (INCB) Project ION Incident Communication System (IONICS) platform.

Priority Action 2.2: Improve domestic capabilities to detect and analyze NPS by making resources and tools available for those responsible in this area.

Paraguay improves its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of special investigative techniques, updated equipment, and acquisition of technology. With respect to investigations, the following equipment is used: gas chromatograph, liquid chromatograph, UV-visible spectrophotometer, FTIR spectrometer, and portable analyzer.

In 2021, the National Anti-Drug Secretariat's (SENAD) Forensic Laboratory was inaugurated, built and equipped with the support of the Government of Taiwan, placing the country at a high level of technical capacity. Currently, the laboratory staff is undergoing ongoing training.

Likewise, during 2021, equipment donations were received from the United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) CRIMEJUST Program, with the support of the United States government. The equipment is: TruNarc and Crime Scene, for use in the laboratory, registries, and surveillance, as well as in airports.

Priority Action 2.3: Design and implement, when appropriate, national regulatory tools to address the challenges posed by NPS and national controls on emerging illicit synthetic drugs and their precursor chemicals.

Paraguay has the following regulatory framework to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs:

- Law 1340/88
- Decree 5213/05

- Decree 5282/2021

Priority Action 2.4: Promote participation in the Project ION Incident Communication System (IONICS) to facilitate real-time communication of incidents involving suspicious shipments of, trafficking in, or illicit manufacture or production of NPS, including fentanyl-related substances and other non-medical synthetic opioids and amphetamine derivatives.

Paraguay participates in the International Operations Project on New Psychoactive Substances (ION) of the INCB. SENAD and the National Directorate of Sanitary Surveillance (DINAVISA) function as focal points.

Priority Action 2.5: Develop innovative regulatory approaches, such as generic controls, analogue legislation, and temporary or emergency controls, to enhance national controls on synthetic opioids for non-medical use, and NPS, particularly when scheduling fentanyl-related substances by class.

Paraguay does not have innovative legislation or regulatory approach to synthetic opioids for non-medical use or NPS.

OBJECTIVE
3

STRENGTHEN OR DEVELOP LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR THE EFFECTIVE MONITORING AND CONTROL OF ESSENTIAL CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES AND PRECURSORS TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF THESE SUBSTANCES TO THE MANUFACTURING OF ILLICIT DRUGS AND COUNTER ITS TRAFFICKING, INCLUDING PERIODICALLY UPDATING NATIONAL LISTS OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES.

Priority Action 3.1: Promote inter-agency coordination with industry to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances.

Paraguay has a National Health Surveillance Directorate of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare as its competent national authority responsible for developing guides, codes of conduct, and other instruments to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances.

The country has developed the National Directorate of Sanitary Surveillance (DINAVISA) and the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) websites as instruments and mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

Paraguay has an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances.

The country's competent authorities carry out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle controlled chemical substances, as presented in the following table:

Name of the competent authority	Does it perform regular inspections and audits?	Responsible for controlling internal commerce?	Incorporates the CICAD model regulations?
DINAVISA	Yes – Monthly, with support from SENAD	Yes	Yes
SENAD	Yes – Monthly, with support from SENAD	Yes	Yes

Priority Action 3.2: Conduct analyses, including through existing mechanisms of information exchange, on substances, their analogues, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health in member states, to identify substances for expedited international control.

Paraguay carries out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing international mechanisms of substances, their analogs, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health. In this sense, the exchange at the international level is carried out through the contact points established by means of international conventions and agreements signed

between national institutions and their peers at the regional or global level.

Priority Action 3.3: Strengthen the existing international control system to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances, pharmaceutical products, and precursors used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, as well as interdiction to counter the trafficking of chemical substances.

Paraguay has Decree 5213/05 and Decree 5282/21 incorporating the control measures in Article 12, Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.

Priority Action 3.4: Strengthen or develop appropriate domestic controls over precursors including measures to control the international trade in precursor chemicals and other controlled chemical substances, consistent with the framework established in the United Nations Drug Conventions, and law enforcement measures.

Paraguay has incorporated the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 8 of the 1988 United Nations Convention into its legislation:

Control measures	Yes	No
Control of all persons and enterprises engaged in the manufacture and distribution of controlled chemical substances	X	
Control, under license, the establishment and premises in which manufacture or distribution of controlled chemical substances may take place	X	
Require that licensees obtain a permit for manufacturing or distributing controlled chemical substances	X	
Prevent the accumulation of controlled chemical substances in the possession of manufacturers and distributors, in excess of the quantities required for the normal conduct of business and the prevailing market conditions		X

The country has incorporated the following control measures listed in Article 12, Paragraph 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention into its legislation:

Control measures	Yes	No
A system to monitor international trade in controlled chemical substances to facilitate the identification of suspicious transactions	X	
The monitoring system shall be used by manufacturers, importers, exporters, wholesalers, and retailers to inform the competent authorities of suspicious orders and transactions	X	
Any controlled substance is seized if there is sufficient evidence that it will be used in the illicit manufacture of narcotics or psychotropic substances	X	

The competent authorities are notified, as soon as possible, if there is reason to believe that the import, export, or transit of a substance is destined for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs or psychotropic substances, including, in particular, information about the means of payment and any other essential elements which led to that belief	X	
Requirements to ensure that imports and exports are properly labelled and documented. Commercial documents such as invoices, cargo manifests, customs, transport, and other shipping documents must include the names of the substances, the quantity, and the name and address of the exporter, the importer and, when available, the consignee. These documents are kept for a period of no less than two years and may be made available for inspection by competent authorities.	X	

Paraguay complies with the request for information in Article 12, Paragraph 10 of the 1988 United Nations Convention.

As additional control measures for chemical precursors, the country uses the Export Single Window and Import Single Window systems.

Priority Action 3.5: Promote participation in the Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online system and Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS) to facilitate information exchange on controlled chemical substances.

Paraguay uses the International Narcotics Control Board’s (INCB) information system for pre-export notifications (PEN Online) of controlled chemical substances.

The country uses the INCB Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS).

Priority Action 3.6: Train relevant drug investigation, control and interdiction personnel and researchers on the identification and handling of precursors and other controlled chemical substances used in the illicit manufacture of drugs.

Paraguay receives the following training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances:

Training Programs	Institution responsible (national or foreign)
INCB Learning	INCB
Crime Just Program	United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC)
Platform OPIOIDS awareness and safe handling modules	INCB GRIDS
Online training seminar on emerging drugs and early warning systems in Paraguay	OAS CICAD

Priority Action 3.7: Allocate resources to acquire necessary equipment and supplies for the preliminary identification of substances, and the protective equipment required by personnel in charge of these tasks.

In Paraguay, there are budgetary mechanisms to ensure allocation of resources to acquire necessary equipment and supplies for the preliminary identification of substances and the protective equipment required by personnel in charge of these tasks. In the budget planning carried out starting in May of each year, the corresponding forecasts are included for allocating budget items for acquisition of the equipment and supplies necessary for preliminary identification of substances, along with the protection equipment required by the agency. The resources requested are not always allocated by the agency, since the budget allocation for SENAD is limited and it has suffered a considerable reduction in budget ceilings due to the pandemic.

In 2021, resources were allocated from the support received from the Government of Taiwan for building a forensic laboratory, including the acquisition of a portion of the required supplies.

Priority Action 3.8: Use, as appropriate, CICAD's Model Regulations for the control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Production of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (2019) in the formulation of national chemical control regulations.

Paraguay uses the CICAD Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances in the procedures carried out by the Directorate of Registration and Supervision of the General Directorate of Intelligence of the SENAD in each of its control and inspection operations for chemical products, chemical precursors, narcotic substances, and psychotropic substances.

OBJECTIVE
4

ENSURE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SUBSTANCES SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL CONTROL FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, WHILE ALSO PREVENTING THEIR DIVERSION TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONTROL CONVENTIONS.

Priority Action 4.1: Streamline, in accordance with national legislation and international obligations, the process for issuing authorizations for national production, and to import and export controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes.

Paraguay has special processes for issuing authorizations for the national production, import, and export of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. The following table indicates how long it takes, on average, for an import or export authorization to be issued:

Product type	Average time to issue import permits	Average time to issue export permits
Narcotic or psychotropic raw materials for the preparation of medicines	From 24 to 48 hours	From 24 to 48 hours
Medications containing narcotic or psychotropic drugs	From 24 to 48 hours	From 24 to 48 hours
Analytical patterns classified as narcotic or psychotropic	From 24 to 48 hours	From 24 to 48 hours
Medications classified as narcotics or psychotropics for the personal use of travelers entering or leaving the country	From 24 to 48 hours	From 24 to 48 hours

The country has an updated register or database of individuals or companies importing and exporting substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

Priority Action 4.2: Adopt measures, in accordance with national laws, to train competent authorities and health professionals on ensuring access to substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

Paraguay has training and awareness activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes.

Priority Action 4.3: Improve access to controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes by addressing existing barriers, including those related to laws, regulations, and measures to promote access and build capacity for health care systems.

Paraguay has a regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. However, no regulations or administrative measures have been adopted to improve access to these substances by the medical and scientific communities.

OBJECTIVE

5

ADOPT OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND/OR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, AND THOSE CONTAINING PRECURSOR SUBSTANCES USED IN THE PRODUCTION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

Priority Action 5.1: Strengthen or implement control measures on pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or controlled psychoactive substances, to prevent their diversion for non-medical purposes, abuse, and trafficking.

Paraguay has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances. For user registration, the platform found on the institutional website is used:

- The applicant hereby declares under oath that all the information provided to the National Anti-Drug Secretariat’s (SENAD) Registration and Supervision Directorate in the application is true
- The signatories assume full responsibility for the information given in the application, in addition to being required to notify the SENAD Registration and Supervision Directorate of any type of modification of the data provided in the form
- The applicant is responsible for issuing a detailed monthly report of its operations to the SENAD Registration and Supervision Directorate within the first 10 business days of each month, as established by Law 1340/88 in its article 4

The country issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors authorizing the handling of pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances

Paraguay carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances.

Priority Action 5.2: Update existing and other regulations and control measures to prevent diversion of pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances.

Paraguay has the following penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances:

Sanction type	Year of the most recent update
Criminal	2002
Administrative	2022

Priority Action 5.3: Strengthen national capacity and regional cooperation to prevent trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including pill presses and encapsulating equipment.

Paraguay participates in the following periodic training programs for personnel responsible for preventing trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances offered by the following cooperating agencies and States:

- United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) CRIMEJUST Program
- United States of America Government – Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA)
- Brazilian Government – Federal Police
- Government of Taiwan – Training in the use of forensic laboratory materials and equipment.

The country shares information with other regional and global systems on the diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through international bilateral cooperation agreements where there are officials who act as liaisons for the effective exchange of information.

Priority Action 5.4: Promote the incorporation of competent national authorities to the International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES) of the International Narcotics Control Board, a secure online platform, ready to issue, load, and exchange expeditiously import and export authorizations of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical use, between countries.

In Paraguay, the National Directorate of Sanitary Surveillance (DINAVISA) of the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare uses the International Narcotics Control Board's (INCB) International Import and Export Authorization System (I2ES).

The country has received training on the INCB's I2ES system.

OBJECTIVE

6

STRENGTHEN OR DEVELOP SPECIFIC OPERATIONAL AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING AND SHARING MECHANISMS TO DETECT METHODS USED BY CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS, INCLUDING THE EXPLOITATION OF LAND, RIVERINE, MARITIME, AND AERIAL ROUTES.

Priority Action 6.1: Train law enforcement personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations, including through the use of existing information systems and intelligence data exchanges.

Paraguay participates in the following periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations, which are offered by the different cooperation agencies, as well as regional and bilateral cooperation with the countries of the region:

- CRIMEJUST programt, United Nations Office on Drug and Crime (UNDOC)
- Eurofont, PACtO, and COPOLAD II and III (Cooperation Programme between Latin America, Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies) Programs of the European Union
- Courses offered by the Gendarmerie of the Ministry of Security of Argentina
- Courses offered by the Brazilian Federal Police
- Courses offered by the Anti-Drug Training Institute of Colombia

Priority Action 6.2: Enhance the capabilities of law enforcement agencies that investigate and counter drug trafficking and the crimes that facilitate and are associated with trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering, through ongoing training of the involved personnel.

Paraguay participates in periodic training programs and other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering. Through bilateral cooperation and cooperation agencies, inter-agency training has been carried out, including the following activities:

- Financial analysis research course (CIAF International)
- "International Principles on Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism" (Formazione e-learning a cura della Scuola di Polizia Economico-Finanziaria)
- Course on Cooperation and Special Techniques given to the Bolivian Special Force to Fight Drug Trafficking (UNODC Bolivia)
- "Virtual Workshop on Asset Recovery from Illicit Drug Trafficking" of the CRIMEJUST Program (UNODC)
- Promotion of Cooperation on Controlled Deliveries to Address Transnational Drug Trafficking" (UNODC)
- "Crimes of money laundering and their connection to drug trafficking and financial asset investigation" (Argentina)

Priority Action 6.3: Strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information among the domestic, regional, and international law enforcement agencies to carry out operations and investigations to counter drug trafficking and related crimes.

Paraguay has information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information, at a domestic, regional, and international level, to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. In this sense, information is collected from confidential sources and operations are carried out, with large seizures of narcotic substances in transit, leading to the identification of new routes and means of hiding drugs.

The mechanisms for collecting and exchanging information are established, both at the national and international levels, through the conventions and agreements signed with the different institutions at the national and international levels.

Through the agreements and joint work with the different countries of the region, information is exchanged among the focal points or links established within the framework of the agreements and conventions.

Likewise, bilateral meetings are held annually with the countries with which agreements and conventions have been signed to evaluate the progress of joint work.

Priority Action 6.4: Promote and strengthen the exchange of information and intelligence on matters of drug interdiction and effective border control measures to prevent drug trafficking by land, river, sea, and air.

Paraguay has tools that promote and strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information and intelligence among domestic law enforcement agencies responsible for drug interdiction and effective border control. In this sense, the National Drug Policy has established the involvement and the common and shared responsibilities of each State entity. In addition, in compliance with these guidelines, agreements have been signed between security and control institutions establishing mechanisms for the exchange of information and cooperation for such purposes. Likewise, the country has legal mechanisms that empower national institutions and organizations to provide and/or request cooperation from other law enforcement institutions and agencies.

Priority Action 6.5: Improve the information systems on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behavior patterns and modus operandi of criminal drug trafficking organizations.

Paraguay has the National Intelligence System (SINAI) as its national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations. The agencies which provide information for this system are the Ministry

of the Interior, SENAD, the Secretariat for the Prevention of Money or Asset Laundering (SEPRELAD), the Public Ministry, and the National Police.

SINAI is established under Law 5214/2014. It is made up of a series of intelligence agencies that are independent of each other, functionally coordinated, and articulated to build useful and systematically-organized knowledge in intelligence and counterintelligence matters, placing them at the disposal of the President of the Republic and the various levels of senior State leadership with the aim of guaranteeing State peace and security, protecting national sovereignty, and preserving the constitutional order and the current democratic regime. In the field of security, joint national actions associated with the fight against drug trafficking, organized crime, and related crimes are provided for.

Without prejudice to their specific functions and duties to their respective superiors, the agencies that make up the SINAI must coordinate through the exchange of information and mutual cooperation in a timely and transparent manner, as established in the aforementioned law.

The actions carried out by the bodies that make up the SINAI, must always be subject to the guiding principles and regulatory limitations established by the aforementioned law.

The SINAI is composed of:

- The National Intelligence Council (CNI)
- The Ministry for Interior Affairs
- The Ministry of National Defense, and the Armed Forces of the Nation
- The Permanent Secretariat of the National Defense Council
- SENAD
- SSEPRELAD.

OBJECTIVE
7

ESTABLISH, UPDATE, OR REINFORCE, AS APPROPRIATE, THE LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS IN THE AREAS OF PREVENTION, DETECTION, INVESTIGATION, PROSECUTION, AND CONTROL OF MONEY LAUNDERING DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING, SUCH AS THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE (FATF).

Priority Action 7.1: Strengthen implementation of the legal, regulatory, and operational frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering associated with drug trafficking.

Paraguay has strengthened the legislative frameworks to counter money laundering derived from illicit drug trafficking. In this sense, the country has the following legislative frameworks:

- Decree No. 4312/2020
- Decree No. 1548/2019
- Decree No. 4561/2010
- Law No. 1015/1997
- Law No. 1160/1997
- Law No. 3783/2009
- Law No. 4024/2010
- Law No. 6419/2019
- Law No. 6452/2019
- Law No. 6497/2019
- Law No. 6408/2019
- Law No. 6797/2021
- Law No. 1340/88
- Law No. 1881/02

Priority Action 7.2: Develop and implement specialized ongoing training in areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking, consistent with known and emerging risks.

Paraguay has periodic training program(s) for officials and those in vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking. In this sense, the Secretariat for the Prevention of Money or Asset Laundering has established a general guide so that training centers, educational institutes, and the like that want to offer academic activities related to the prevention of money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism can have their respective curricula recognized by the Secretariat. For this reason, SEPRELAD Resolution No. 135/2020 has been issued, "whereby the general training guide on the prevention of money laundering and financing of terrorism of the secretariat for the prevention of money or asset laundering is approved." The parameters and requirements necessary for the approval of study plans are found in this resolution. In addition, this is part of

the actions aimed at compliance with Objective No. 12 of the Action Plan of the Strategic Plan of the Paraguayan State to combat money laundering, the financing of terrorism, and the financing of the proliferation weapons of mass destruction, regarding the implementation of a National Training Plan.

Priority Action 7.3: Enhance investigations by competent authorities into drug trafficking cases linked to money laundering and illicit use of assets.

Paraguay has protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. In this sense, the Public Ministry issued General Instruction No. 01/2021 on June 24, 2021, with directives for the investigation of assets or finances in the context of criminal offenses, including drug trafficking, along with money laundering, terrorist financing, corruption, smuggling, human trafficking, and any other act linked to criminal structures.

Priority Action 7.4: Strengthen interagency coordination and cooperation in relation to the development of national anti-money laundering strategies, including through coordinating committees and task forces.

Paraguay has mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. In terms of money laundering prevention and control, Paraguay has established the Secretariat for the Prevention of Money or Asset Laundering (SEPRELAD) as a Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), created by Law No. 1015 of 1997. Its powers as established under this law including the authority to require State agencies and entities to turn over all related information, as well the implementation of interconnections to obtain online access to databases, information centers, and other sources required for exercising its functions, within the framework of cooperation and coordination policies.

Based on this authority, SEPRELAD has signed numerous agreements and inter-agency cooperation agreements with entities that, directly or indirectly, take part in the fight against money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism.

Additionally, in 2013, Paraguay developed a Strategic Plan of the Paraguayan State (PEEP), which details actions aimed at addressing aspects of the prevention of money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism, establishing improving domestic coordination of authorities as one of its objectives.

In this vein, the country has created an Inter-agency Committee for the System to prevent money laundering and the financing of terrorism, created by Decree No. 7949/17. It has a general office under the Secretary General and Chief of the Civil Cabinet of the Presidency of the Republic, as well as an executive office run by the Minister-Executive Secretary of SEPRELAD.

The Committee plays an active role in executing the actions and meeting the deadlines set forth in the Strategic Plan of the Paraguayan State, especially with regard to coordination and cooperation.

Priority Action 7.5: Strengthen the exchange of financial intelligence as related to money laundering, including through the standardization of information systems.

Paraguay has SEPRELAD as its financial intelligence unit.

The country has information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. In this sense, in carrying out its functions, SEPRELAD has issued sectoral regulations to collect different systematic transaction reports, electronic transfers registers, reporting on cross-border transportation of foreign currency, and other informational reports.

In compliance with this regulatory framework, the mechanisms for receiving information on cross-border physical transportation were established in 2010. Starting in 2013, objective reports have been received, a collection that began by requiring notaries public to be reporting entities, followed by vehicle importers and sellers, safe deposit box service companies, and shipping companies.

In 2019, objective information from the financial sector was formally added, which provides data related to cash deposits/withdrawals, exchanges, arbitration, early debt repayment, national and international transfers, and the thresholds set in the regulatory resolutions. The remittance companies were the last to enter the reporting system. This type of report constitutes a fundamental input for preparing the intelligence products issued by the FIU.

As for the analysis process, the FIU uses two tools for collecting suspicious transaction reports (STR) and objective reports, which reporting entities access through their website. The STR web application provides access to the SIRTECH System, a system that is in the process of being replaced, but on which non-financial sector reporters are still reporting information. To support this application, the technology department has enabled a support line from Argentina for maintaining the database. The second tool is the Transactions Reporting System (TRS), a tool developed in-house by SEPRELAD.

Likewise, SEPRELAD has formalized access to information sources by improving cooperation agreements with public and private entities that allow access to the information contained in its databases based on the powers granted in Law 1,015/97. In this way, analysts are able to access information to validate the information contained in the STRs and add value to the transaction analyses conducted.

Regarding strategic analysis, the main tool used is the “Visual Analytics” software that is part of

the SAS analysis suite. Several resources are used for managing alerts and cases, such as the STR capture platform for STR management (developed by the same company that developed the STR web system that will be replaced by the SIRO system) and software for analyzing connections through the graphic visualization of the networks in each case.

As an additional tool for analysis, a module for personalized queries from the database engine of the information stored in the Datawarehouse is in the process of being tested. Once in production, it will centralize the information collection and aggregation tools necessary for financial intelligence analysis.

Priority Action 7.6: Identify and analyze money laundering threats to mitigate risks through public policies that strengthen the regime for preventing and countering money laundering, in accordance with applicable international instruments.

Paraguay has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations. In this sense, with the establishment of the PEEP, one of Paraguay's objectives is developing a National Risk Assessment of money laundering, the financing of terrorism, and the financing of the proliferation weapons of mass destruction, including analysis of systemic threats and vulnerabilities, having to date carried out a general evaluation of money laundering, the financing of terrorism in 2016, which identified drug trafficking as among the main threats. The evaluation was updated in 2018, when the continuity of the threats detected initially was assessed and adjustments made to the PEEP to address them.

Likewise, in 2019, the country carried out a National Risk Assessment (NRA) focused exclusively on terrorist financing. The process concluded in 2020, and its findings and recommendations were incorporated into the PEEP.

Additionally, the country has carried out Sectoral Risk Assessments for different sectors, including real estate, remittances, virtual asset service providers, and non-profit organizations and legal persons and structures, emphasizing the risks that these sectors pose to the national economy.

Priority Action 7.7: Strengthen partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities.

Paraguay has established partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities. In this sense, as established in Law No. 1015/97 and its amendments, financial institutions have specific obligations related to identifying and investigating illicit transactions and money laundering, the financing of terrorism operations linked to any criminal offense, including illicit drug trafficking.

In this sense, although this is not the result of a partnership per se, the legal framework—applicable to all so-called “reporting entities,” which includes the financial sector, establishes in article 14 that due diligence must be applied to customers, whether they are physical or juridical persons or legal structures, when entering into commercial and contractual relationships and on an ongoing basis while those relationships last.

These measures include processes to verify the transactions carried out to ensure that they are consistent with what is known about the client, their commercial activity, and the risk profile, including the origin of the funds.

Likewise, Article 15 of the aforementioned law establishes that the due diligence measures to be adopted consist of identifying the client and verifying their identity, using documents, data or reliable information from independent sources; identifying the end beneficiary; and regular monitoring of the transactions made to verify they match with the client's profile.

Also, Article 19 establishes an obligation to report any transaction—attempted or carried out, regardless of its amount—for which there are reasonable grounds or suspicion of links to activities that are conducive, represent threats of, or amount to indications of the commission of money laundering, the financing of terrorism and the criminal offenses preceding it.

Along these same lines, all parts of the financial sector have specific regulations establishing the obligations to report suspicious transactions, the analysis process to classify them, and the warning signs, among other aspects, subsequently sent in STRs that are used as inputs by the FIU to further and continue intelligence analysis of transactions related to money laundering, the financing of terrorism or its prior criminal offenses.

OBJECTIVE
8

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN AGENCIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSITION OF SEIZED AND/OR FORFEITED ASSETS IN CASES OF DRUG TRAFFICKING, MONEY LAUNDERING, AND OTHER RELATED CRIMES, IN LINE WITH APPLICABLE INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND IN LINE WITH RELEVANT STANDARDS, SUCH AS THE FATF RECOMMENDATIONS AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS ON PREVENTIVE FREEZING OF ASSETS.

Priority Action 8.1: Establish and/or strengthen, as appropriate, national entities responsible for the administration and disposition of assets seized and/or forfeited in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes.

Priority Action 8.2: Establish specialized agencies and appropriate mechanisms for the transparent administration of seized and forfeited assets, in accordance with national laws and international standards.

Paraguay’s National Seized and Forfeited Assets Secretariat (SENABICO) is the designated competent authority responsible for the administration and dispositions of seized and forfeited assets, through Law No. 5876/2017.

The country has the following regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets:

- Law No. 5876/2017
- Law No. 5282/2014
- Law No. 276/94
- Decree No. 8668/2018
- Decree No. 4048/2020
- Accountability Plan of the National Secretariat for the Management of Seized and Forfeited Assets

Priority Action 8.3: Develop and implement specialized, ongoing training programs for law enforcement officials charged with the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

Paraguay participates in the following specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets:

	Name and type of training offered	Name and type of training received
International organizations	Good Practices in the Management of Seized Assets – Training Program implemented through a Cooperation Agreement between the Costa Rican Drug Institute and SENABICO.	Good Practices in the Management of Seized Assets – Training Program implemented through a Cooperation Agreement between the Costa Rican Drug Institute and SENABICO.

Priority Action 8.4: In accordance with each country’s constitutional principles, apply legislative and regulatory measures to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture and management of assets, instruments, or products of illicit drug-related activities.

Paraguay has Law No. 6431/2019, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture, and management of assets and instruments derived from drug trafficking and other related crimes.

OBJECTIVE

9

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT, AND STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED NATIONAL PROGRAMS TO REDUCE THE ILLICIT CULTIVATION, PRODUCTION AND MANUFACTURE OF DRUGS THROUGH THE ADOPTION OF EFFECTIVE MEASURES, SUCH AS COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, ENHANCED LAW ENFORCEMENT COOPERATION, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE POLICIES AND PROGRAMS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE PARTICULAR NEEDS OF SUB-NATIONAL REGIONS OF EACH COUNTRY, RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

Priority Action 9.1: Design, implement, and update national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of drugs.

Paraguay has designed, implemented, and updated national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production, and manufacture of drugs through the following institutions:

Industrial Hemp – Non-psychoactive Cannabis: Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, National Anti-Drug Secretariat, Paraguayan Institute of Agricultural Technology, National Plant and Seed Quality and Health Service, Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

These institutions form the Inter-institutional Commission for the Promotion of the Non-Psychoactive Cannabis Industrial Hemp – COINCA

Medical Cannabis: Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare and National Anti-Drug Secretariat in coordination with the National Institute of Agricultural Technology, National Forest Institute, National Council of Science and Technology, and authorized pharmaceutical laboratories.

These policies are within the framework of Decree No. 3999/2020, establishing the national program for the promotion, development, cultivation, production development, marketing, and research of industrial hemp (non-psychoactive cannabis), declaring it in the national interest; and Law No. 6007/2017, which creates the national program for the study and medical and scientific research of the medicinal uses of the cannabis plant and its derivatives.

Priority Action 9.2: Establish budgetary mechanisms to ensure sufficient and consistent allocation of resources to counternarcotics programs.

Paraguay directs budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. In this sense, in the budget planning carried out starting in May of each year, the corresponding forecasts are included for allocating budget items for activities linked to anti-narcotics programs. However, the resources requested by the institution are not always allocated, since the budget allocation for the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) is limited and it has suffered a considerable reduction in budget ceilings due to the pandemic.

Priority Action 9.3: Promote supply reduction measures that take into account licit traditional uses, whenever there is historical evidence of such uses, as well as environmental protection.

Paraguay does not take into account the licit traditional use in designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs.

The country includes environmental protection measures in its policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs. In this sense, an Inter-agency Cooperation Framework Agreement has been signed between SENAD and the Ministry of the Environment and Sustainable Development (MADES) to join forces to jointly carry out activities and/or projects in order to achieve objectives shared by both institutions related to the management, protection, recovery, and sustainable use of natural resources, mainly guaranteeing the quality of life and the right to a healthy environment.

Likewise, a Specific Inter-agency Cooperation Agreement has been signed whose main objective is to guarantee SENAD and MADES coordinate their work to comply with the provisions of the framework agreement mentioned in relation to its implementation. These actions are intended to ratify and strengthen the joint work that both institutions have already been carrying out in the fight against illegal marijuana crops in the national parks managed by the environmental entity.

Likewise, a Framework Agreement has been signed with the National Forestry Institute on conducting joint work related to forest protection and restoration and the fight against the deforestation caused when land is prepped for the introduction of illicit crops. Likewise, joint work has been agreed to with technical tools for monitoring forests at the national level and detecting illicit crops.

Priority Action 9.4: Strengthen interagency cooperation to provide a comprehensive response against the illicit production of drugs, including collaboration among the public and private sectors and the international community.

Paraguay has established mechanisms for inter-institutional cooperation between public and private institutions to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs. In this sense, the strategic partnerships for joint work are formed with the signing of agreements, conventions, and memorandums of understanding, where the cooperation criteria are established that address the different aspects of the frontal fight against the illicit production of drugs.

Priority Action 9.5: Support supply reduction programs with crime prevention initiatives, in cooperation with civil society and other stakeholders, as appropriate, to address social and economic risk factors.

Paraguay supports the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors, which include the participation of civil society and other social actors.

OBJECTIVE**10**

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT OR STRENGTHEN LONG-TERM ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, INCLUDING RURAL AND URBAN ALTERNATIVES, COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND, AS APPROPRIATE, PREVENTIVE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, AS APPROPRIATE, WHILE RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

Priority Action 10.1: Design and implement comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, while respecting human rights.

Paraguay has designed and implemented the National Program for the Promotion, Development, Cultivation, Production, Development, and Research of Industrial Hemp (PRODAIS) as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops since 2019. The National Anti-Drug Secretariat's (SENAD) Alternative Development Directorate coordinates and evaluates the implementation of this program.

This program incorporates a human rights approach. In this sense, the producers of industrial hemp are guaranteed that they will not be subjected to any type of retaliation, blackmail, or extortion by the country's law enforcement or security authorities and that they will be able to cultivate this crop, complying with all the security protocol measures. The State provides producers with all the necessary legal guarantees without stigmatizing the activity of hemp cultivation.

Priority Action 10.2: Exchange experiences and best practices in the design and implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate.

Paraguay exchanges experiences and best practices with other countries in the Hemisphere on the design and implementation of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs through bilateral meetings with the countries of the region within the framework of the Comixtas, as well as in the meeting of the Mercosur Authorities Network that takes place every six months.

With the start of the Cooperation Programme between Latin America, Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD) III, the Comprehensive and Sustainable Alternative Development (DAIS) Working Group has been formed in which Paraguay, through the SENAD and its Alternative Development Directorate, participates. Likewise, during evaluation years 2019-2022, it has participated in the meetings of the Group of Experts on Alternative Development of CICAD OAS. Additionally, during the first four months of 2021, it presented the progress made nationally on alternative development during the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs (EU-CELAC) meeting.

Priority Action 10.3: Promote and disseminate the results of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and the benefits they provide to affected communities.

Paraguay promotes and disseminates the results of these programs, and the benefits they provide to affected communities in the form of annual SENAD performance reports.

Priority Action 10.4: Design and/or strengthen monitoring and evaluation systems for comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs aimed at reducing illicit crop cultivation and improving the well-being of communities, through the use of indicators that measure programs' effectiveness.

Paraguay uses the following results to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs in the medium and long terms.

Indicator	Type of outcome indicator	
	Intermediate	Final
Number of families	-	X
Crop area	-	X
Cities where there are crops	-	X
Departments where there are crops	-	X

These indicators aim to measure the economic and social development of individuals and communities, not reductions of illicit crops containing narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.

Priority Action 10.5: Strengthen state presence in areas affected by or at risk of illicit drug cultivation, consistent with the circumstances of each member state.

The comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs are complemented by public policies that strengthen the presence of the State in the areas affected by illicit crops. The programs are implemented by the following institutions:

Institutions that implement policies that complement the alternative development programs in affected areas	Yes	No
Ministry of Agriculture	X	
Agricultural Research Institute	X	
Ministry of Education		X
Ministry of Health	X	
Ministry of Interior Affairs/National Police (law enforcement)	X	
Ministry of National Security/Defense	X	
Ministry of Transportation/Public Works		X

Ministry of Women/Family		X
Ministry of Commerce (International)	X	
Office of the Public Prosecutor	X	
Ministry of Labor/Social Affairs		X
National Drug Authority	X	

Priority Action 10.6: Promote, in accordance with national realities, the participation of local communities and relevant organizations in the development of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, taking into account their needs and capabilities.

Paraguay's communities and target groups participate in the design, implementation, and supervision processes of comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs through the associations or committees, families interested in the crop can access seeds for the growing industrial hemp. Community leaders inform families interested in participating in the new income opportunity of the pilot plan designed in the framework of the Industrial Hemp Program for small producers.

Priority Action 10.7: Promote partnerships and innovative cooperative initiatives with the private sector, civil society, and international financial institutions to spur investment and job creation in areas and communities affected by or at-risk of illicit drug cultivation and production, and share related practices, lessons learned, expertise, and skills.

Paraguay promotes the following partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society, and international financial institutions to establish programs that lead to job creation in areas affected by illicit drug cultivation and trafficking:

Program Name	Agency Name
1. Inter-institutional Cooperation Framework Agreement for the restoration of degraded ecosystems between SENAD and PARACEL	PARACEL S.A. private company
2. Memorandum of Understanding for the incorporation of the SDGs in the updating of Drug Policies, in particular gender and Alternative Development between SENAD and UNDP	United Nations Development Program – UNDP
3. International Cooperation Program between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COPOLAD II • COPOLAD III 	COPOLAD – European Union – International Foundation for Ibero-America for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP) – International Italo-Latin American Organization (IILA) – German Cooperation (GIZ)

These programs share best practices, lessons learned, expertise, and skills acquired.

OBJECTIVE
11

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT PLANS AND/OR PROGRAMS TO MITIGATE AND REDUCE THE IMPACT OF ILLICIT CROPS AND DRUG PRODUCTION ON THE ENVIRONMENT, IN COOPERATION WITH LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND NATIONAL POLICIES OF MEMBER STATES.

Priority Action 11.1: Conduct research and studies on the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and illicit production of drugs.

Paraguay carried out, during the evaluation period (2019-2022), the following research and studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production:

- San Luis Park Management Plan 2020
- Caazapá National Park Management Plan 2020

Priority Action 11.2: Design and implement specific research-based plans to mitigate the environmental impact of illicit crop cultivation and drug production, with the participation of local communities.

Paraguay designed and implemented the following specific plans based on the results of research and studies carried out to mitigate and reduce the negative environmental impact of the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production, with the participation of local communities:

Plans implemented	Participating local communities
The National Forest Strategy for Sustainable Growth—which includes illicit crops as one of the drivers of deforestation at the national level—was approved in 2019.	Family farming groups Indigenous organizations University students
Implementation Plan of the Forestry Strategy for Sustainable Growth 2020	Family farming groups Indigenous organizations University students

Priority Action 11.3: Promote and strengthen the use of environmental management tools, as appropriate.

The country promotes and strengthens the use of environmental management tools through its Stakeholder Involvement Plan on Forestry Strategy for Sustainable Growth.

OBJECTIVE
12

ADDRESS THE EFFECTS OF SMALL-SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKING ON PUBLIC HEALTH, THE ECONOMY, SOCIAL COHESION, AND CITIZEN SECURITY.

Priority Action 12.1: Develop and implement local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes.

Priority Action 12.4: Encourage the development and implementation of comprehensive intervention strategies to counter local illicit distribution and sale of drugs.

Paraguay has developed and implemented local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security. In this sense, the country is implementing local approaches for controlling micro-trafficking and related crimes:

- In the area of supply reduction, through the Urban Operations Directorate, which conducts operations to control people, vehicles, and cargo, along with raids on urban and rural properties and arrests of people linked to drug trafficking and/or related crimes.
- In the area of demand reduction, structurally, the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD) has a General Directorate for Demand Reduction, which offers training, technical guides, prevention, and communication programs, along with outpatient centers for support and treatment in several municipalities, in addition to the creation of a free drug help hotline program, called “LLAMAME 172-PY.”

Priority Action 12.2: Promote the interagency exchange of information at the national level to better understand the scope and adverse effects of small-scale drug trafficking, including on health, society, the economy, and security.

Paraguay promotes the inter-agency exchange of information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking in the health, social, economic, and security sectors. These exchanges were made according to the following table:

Entities with which information was exchanged	Means of verification	Year
National Center for Addiction Prevention and Treatment Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare	Cooperation and Institution-building Agreement and Conventions	2019 / 2022
Ministry of Education and Science Public and private universities on Paraguayan territory Ministry of Children and Adolescents Ministry of Women National Secretary of Sport Municipalities, central government, and other departmental governments National Institute of the Indigenous	Cooperation and Institution-building Agreement and Conventions	2019 / 2022

Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Ministry of Labor and Social Security	Cooperation and Institution-building Agreement and Conventions	2019 / 2022
Ministry of Justice Judicial branch Office of the Public Prosecutor Ministry of Interior Affairs	Cooperation and Institution-building Agreement and Conventions	2019 / 2022
Bilateral with countries of the region – MERCOSUR – NETWORK of Authorities for the Fight against Drugs	Bilateral information exchange meetings within the framework of Cooperation and Information Exchange Agreements	2019 / 2022
CICAD OAS Supply Reduction Expert Groups	Participation in expert group meetings	2019 / 2022
Cooperation Programme between Latin America, Caribbean and the European Union on Drugs Policies (COPOLAD III) —Supply reduction expert group	Participation in expert group meetings	2022

Priority Action 12.3: Promote programs and strategies to prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.

Paraguay has the following programs to prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level:

Institution	Program
Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Addiction Prevention and Treatment Center, "Detoxification Program" and "Promotion and Prevention Service, mainly in Educational Institutions" • Mental Health Directorate—provides services through mental health units • General Directorate of the Program "Guide to Comprehensive Management of Adolescents, including the use of drugs and other substances" • National Directorate of Sanitary Surveillance (DINAVISIA). • PRONASIDA: National Program to Fight AIDS, "Technical guidelines, implementation of intervention projects, epidemiological surveillance, and counseling service—prevention and treatment of people living with HIV and of drug use"
Ministry of Education and Science	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General Directorate of Inclusive Education, "Programs and projects for prevention, awareness, dissemination and training, support for the studying the issue, and technical guides;" the "It's up to you, you decide" communications campaign. • Circuit of Response to the Consumption and/or presence of drugs in Educational Institutions, since September 2016. Resolution No. 19972. • "Concerned parents who take action" program • "Strong Families" Program • "Building Cultures of Prevention" programs (teachers)

Ministry of Children and Adolescents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Abrazo” program • PAINAC program
Ministry of Women	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection service for vulnerable women
National Secretary of Sport and SENAD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Golazo” program
Municipalities, central government, and other departmental governments, Municipal Secretariat on Drugs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishment of Outpatient Centers
Ministry of Labor and Social Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labor inclusion plans for the general population
Ministry of Justice, Penitentiary Directorate of Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prison Health Plan, which includes addressing substance abuse
Judicial branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restorative Justice Program: aimed at adolescents
Office of the Public Prosecutor, Directorate of Communications and Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs and micro-trafficking prevention workshop
Ministry of Interior Affairs, Anti-narcotics Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention talks and activities
Ministry of Interior Affairs, Directorate of Security Policies, Directorate of Citizen Participation and Directorate of Departmental and Municipal Governments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Citizen Security Strategy

EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

Objective 1

Develop and/or strengthen national- and regional-level interdiction capacity, as well as the capacity to reduce the illicit cultivation, production, trafficking, and distribution of plant-based and synthetic drugs through the use of comprehensive and balanced programs in accordance with the realities of each country's domestic legislation and respect for human rights.

CICAD notes that Paraguay implements ongoing training programs to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities used in the illicit manufacture of drugs, for personnel involved in interdiction operations. The country also has protocols and operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle clandestine laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs, which provide adequate safety and health measures for personnel involved in the dismantling of the laboratories or facilities and include actions that minimize damage to the environment and optimize the management of chemical and hazardous waste. Moreover, CICAD observes that the agencies in charge of drug control in Paraguay implement policies that promote gender mainstreaming. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has programs or strategies aimed at land, riverine, maritime, and aerial interdiction, through monitoring, inspections, or checkpoints. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country has laws providing for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have updated assessments or studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes. On the other hand, CICAD observes that the country implements actions to identify organized crime groups involved in drug trafficking and related crimes, carries out inter-institutional collaboration and cooperation mechanisms to coordinate activities aimed at dismantling organized crime groups involved in these crimes, and has participated in operations and investigations in cooperation with other countries aimed at dismantling these groups. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has institutions that are responsible for, and capable of, analyzing chemical substances, precursors, pharmaceutical products, and synthetic drugs, including new psychoactive substances (NPS) and has and participates in ongoing training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. CICAD also observes that the country has mechanisms to facilitate and share information at the national level across relevant governmental counterparts, as well as with global repositories on these substances. CICAD notes that the country has mechanisms to investigate and disrupt drug trafficking through the Internet. CICAD observes that the country has partnerships and information exchange mechanisms with private sector entities to prevent access to materials and services exploited for illicit drug trafficking purposes and uses tools and resources of the INCB to strengthen cooperation with the private sector to prevent the diversion of chemicals. CICAD notes that Paraguay has national authorities with the appropriate budget, human and material resources for the forfeiture, seizure, and management of assets, tools, or products related to illicit drug markets and its competent personnel receive ongoing training in this matter.

Objective 2

Strengthen national measures to address the challenges posed by NPS and illicit synthetic drugs, and the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, and illicit amphetamine derivatives.

CICAD observes that Paraguay has an early warning system (EWS) to identify and trace new psychoactive substances (NPS), illicit synthetic drugs, and the threat of fentanyl-related substances, non-medical synthetic opioids, illicit amphetamine derivatives, and other substances subject to international control. This information is shared with other regional or global systems. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country improves its capabilities to detect and analyze NPS through the use of special investigative techniques, updated equipment, and the acquisition of technology. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has a regulatory framework to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and emerging synthetic drugs. CICAD also notes that the country participates in the INCB's ION Project. However, CICAD observes that Paraguay does not have innovative legislation or regulatory approach to synthetic opioids for non-medical use or NPS.

Objective 3

Strengthen or develop legal and institutional frameworks for the effective monitoring and control of essential chemical substances and precursors to prevent diversion of these substances to the manufacturing of illicit drugs and counter its trafficking, including periodically updating national lists of controlled chemical substances.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Paraguay has a competent national authority responsible for developing guides, codes of conduct, or other instruments to inform the industry and users in general of controlled chemical substances and has developed such instruments and mechanisms. CICAD also observes that the country has an updated register of all individuals and corporations handling controlled chemical substances and that competent authorities carry out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle these substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country carries out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing international mechanisms of substances, their analogs, and precursors, which pose a threat to public health. Additionally, CICAD observes that Paraguay has legislation incorporating the control measures in Article 12, Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the 1988 United Nations Convention to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities, which include three of the four control measures in paragraph 8, all five control measures in paragraph 9, and requests for information set forth in Paragraph 10. Likewise, CICAD notes that the country uses the PEN Online system for pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances, as well as the PICS system. Additionally, CICAD observes that Paraguay receives training for drug control personnel and for the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that there are budgetary mechanisms in the country to ensure allocation of resources to acquire necessary equipment and supplies for the preliminary identification of substances and the protective equipment required by personnel in

charge of these tasks. CICAD also observes that the country uses the OAS/CICAD Model Regulations for the Control of Chemical Substances Used in the Illicit Manufacture of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.

Objective 4

Ensure adequate availability and accessibility of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes, while also preventing their diversion towards illicit activities, in accordance with international drug control conventions.

CICAD notes that Paraguay has special processes for issuing authorizations for the national production, import, and export of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes and has an updated register of individuals or companies importing and exporting these substances. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has training and awareness activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes. CICAD also notes that the country has a regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. However, no regulations or administrative measures have been adopted to improve access to these substances by the medical and scientific communities.

Objective 5

Adopt or strengthen control measures to prevent diversion of controlled pharmaceutical products containing narcotic drugs and/or psychotropic substances, and those containing precursor substances used in the production of controlled substances.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Paraguay has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances, issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors authorizing the handling of these products, and carries out regular inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle them. CICAD observes that the country has criminal and administrative penalties for infractions or violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics, or psychotropic substances. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country has periodic training programs for personnel responsible for preventing trade in and diversion of materials and equipment for illicit production or manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and shares information with other regional or global systems on this matter. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country uses the INCB's I2ES system and has received training in its use.

Objective 6

Strengthen or develop specific operational and intelligence gathering and sharing mechanisms to detect methods used by criminal organizations, including the exploitation of land, riverine, maritime, and aerial routes.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Paraguay participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in drug investigations in specialized investigative techniques and intelligence collection, analysis, and operations. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country participates in periodic training programs and other capacity-building activities to investigate and counter crimes associated with drug trafficking, such as corruption and money laundering. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information, at a domestic, regional, and international level, to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. CICAD also observes that the country has tools that promote and strengthen cooperation and the exchange of information and intelligence among domestic law enforcement agencies responsible for drug interdiction and effective border control. Moreover, CICAD notes that Paraguay has a national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

Objective 7

Establish, update, or reinforce, as appropriate, the legislative and institutional frameworks in the areas of prevention, detection, investigation, prosecution, and control of money laundering derived from drug trafficking, such as the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Paraguay has strengthened the legislative frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has periodic training programs for officials and those in vulnerable sectors on prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering derived from drug trafficking. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country has protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has mechanisms allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. CICAD notes that the country has a financial intelligence unit and information systems aimed at the investigation and prosecution of money laundering in analyzing cases deriving from drug trafficking. CICAD observes that the country has mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the FATF recommendations. Additionally, CICAD notes that Paraguay has established partnerships with the financial industries to identify and investigate illicit transactions and money laundering operations related to the proceeds of drug trafficking activities.

Objective 8

Establish and/or strengthen agencies for the administration and disposition of seized and/or forfeited assets in cases of drug trafficking, money laundering, and other related crimes, in line with applicable international law, and in line with relevant standards, such as the FATF recommendations and the recommendations on preventive freezing of assets.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Paraguay has a designated competent authority responsible for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets with regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the management of seized and forfeited assets. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country participates in specialized, periodic training programs for the management and disposition of seized and forfeited assets. Additionally, CICAD notes that Paraguay has a law, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure, forfeiture, and management of assets and instruments derived from drug trafficking and other related crimes.

Objective 9

Design, implement, and strengthen comprehensive and balanced national programs to reduce the illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of drugs through the adoption of effective measures, such as comprehensive and sustainable alternative development, enhanced law enforcement cooperation, and other appropriate policies and programs, taking into account the particular needs of sub-national regions of each country, respecting human rights.

CICAD notes that Paraguay has designed, implemented and updated national policies and programs to prevent and decrease illicit cultivation, production and manufacture of drugs. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has direct budgetary allocations towards financing counternarcotics programs. On the other hand, CICAD notes that the country does not take into account the licit traditional use in designing and implementing policies and programs to reduce the illicit supply of drugs but includes environmental protection measures in these policies and programs. CICAD observes that the country has established mechanisms for interinstitutional cooperation between public and private institutions to provide a comprehensive response to the illicit production of drugs. Moreover, CICAD notes that Paraguay supports the development of supply reduction programs with drug-related crime prevention initiatives that address social and economic risk factors, which include the participation from civil society and other social stakeholders.

Objective 10

Design, implement or strengthen long-term alternative development programs, including rural and urban alternatives, comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and, as appropriate, preventive alternative development, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, as appropriate, while respecting human rights.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Paraguay has designed and implemented a comprehensive and sustainable alternative development program as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops since 2019, which has a national entity that coordinates and evaluates its implementation and takes into account the human rights perspective. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country exchanges experiences and best practices with other countries in the Hemisphere on the design and implementation of [comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs. CICAD also notes that the country promotes and disseminates the results of this program, and the benefits it provides to affected communities. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country uses results indicators to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of its comprehensive and sustainable alternative development program in the medium and long terms and that these indicators aim to evaluate aspects of economic and social development of individuals and communities. CICAD notes that Paraguay's comprehensive and sustainable alternative development program is supplemented by public policies that strengthen the government's presence in areas affected by illicit crops, which are implemented by various agencies. CICAD also observes that the country's communities and target groups participate in the design, implementation, and supervision processes of its comprehensive and sustainable alternative development program. Additionally, CICAD notes that Paraguay promotes partnerships and innovative cooperation initiatives with the private sector, civil society, and international financial institutions to establish programs that lead to job creation in areas affected by illicit drug cultivation and traffic and that these programs share best practices, lessons learned, expertise, and skills acquired.

Objective 11

Design and implement plans and/or programs to mitigate and reduce the impact of illicit crops and drug production on the environment, in cooperation with local communities and national policies of member states.

CICAD notes that Paraguay carried out, during the evaluation period (2019-2022), the following research and studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country designed and implemented the following specific plans based on the results of research and studies carried out to mitigate and reduce the negative environmental impact of the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production, with the participation of local communities and that it promotes and strengthens the use of environmental management tools in the specific plans implemented.

Objective 12

Address the effects of small-scale drug trafficking on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security.

CICAD notes that Paraguay has developed and implemented approaches for controlling micro-

trafficking and related crimes, that take into account effects on public health, the economy, social cohesion, and citizen security. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country promotes the interagency exchange of information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking in the health, social, economic, and security sectors. Additionally, CICAD notes that Paraguay has programs that prevent the exploitation of at-risk populations affected by drug trafficking networks, at the national and international level.



**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)
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