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# MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

*Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:  
Institutional Strengthening; Research,  
Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation;  
and International Cooperation*

## Honduras

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

2023





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# HONDURAS

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### **EIGHTH EVALUATION ROUND**

**2023**

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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 areas of "Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation" was conducted during 2023, and covers the 2019 to 2023 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.

# INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

**OBJECTIVE**

**1**

**ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL DRUG AUTHORITIES, PLACING THEM AT A HIGH POLITICAL LEVEL AND PROVIDING THEM WITH THE NECESSARY CAPABILITIES, RESOURCES, AND COMPETENCIES TO COORDINATE FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION OF NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 1.1: Place national drug authorities at a high political level.**

Honduras has the National Directorate of Investigation and Intelligence (DNII) as the national drug authority. It was established by the National Defense and Security Council in 2015 and forms part of the Executive Branch of the State.

**Priority Action 1.2: Grant national drug policy entities the authority to guide and coordinate the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of national drug policies.**

The following laws provide the legal basis for the DNII of Honduras:

- Decree abolishing the National Council against Drug Trafficking (CNCN) (PCM-048-2014)
- Law governing the National Defense and Security Council (CNDS)
- Resolution CNDS 050 - 2015

**Priority Action 1.3: Allocate the necessary resources (material, financial, and human) for the effective functioning of the national drug authorities.**

In Honduras there is an independent annual budget for the national drug authority, which is independent. The DNII has a budget assigned to fulfill its mission, which is used to fulfill the strategic objectives that are established annually. These resources in turn contribute to inter-institutional national and international coordination on the issue of drugs.

Below is the amount of annual spending executed by the national drug authority in the years 2019-2023:

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Annual budget of expenses executed (US dollars)	\$ 112,586.96	\$ 108,696.68	\$ 101,054.25	\$ 102,838.17	\$ 150,000.00



**Priority Action 1.4:** Design or optimize mechanisms to facilitate effective coordination and collaboration among government institutions for the formulation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation, and updating of evidence-based national drug policies and/or strategies.

Honduras has an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government (national and subnational) to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update national drug policies and/or strategies via Interinstitutional Technical Roundtables.

The country's national drug authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory, and international cooperation. However, the national authority does not coordinate the area of program evaluation.

**OBJECTIVE  
2**

FORMULATE, IMPLEMENT, EVALUATE, AND UPDATE COMPREHENSIVE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT PROMOTE BALANCED, MULTIDISCIPLINARY, AND EVIDENCE-BASED APPROACHES, WHILE FULLY RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, UNDER THE PRINCIPLE OF COMMON AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITY, CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW, AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT GENDER, AGE, COMMUNITY, CULTURAL CONTEXT, AND SOCIALLY INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT.

**Priority Action 2.1:** Collect and use evidence as a basis for the formulation and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies.

In Honduras, the Honduran Observatory on Drugs (OHSD) collects and uses evidence as a basis for formulating and updating national drug policies and/or strategies. Thus, the country collects information through Interinstitutional Technical Roundtables, which is then validated, analyzed, and disseminated. Pilot studies on substance use are also conducted.

**Priority Action 2.2:** Promote and establish collaborative relationships with the scientific community, public policy experts, community and/or civil society actors, and other relevant stakeholders, to contribute to the evidence-based development, implementation, evaluation, and updating of national drug policies.

In Honduras, the following relevant actors from priority areas are involved in the development, implementation and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies:

Relevant actors	Development	Implementation	Evaluation	Update
Health Ministry	X	X		X
Interior Ministry	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Justice Ministry	X	X		X
Education Ministry	X	X		
Regional and/or local governments				
Scientific community/academia	X	X		
Civil Society	X	X		
Private sector	X			
<b>Others:</b> - Office of the Public Prosecutor - Ministry of Defense	X	X		X

The country's regional and/or local governments are not involved in the development, implementation, evaluation or updating of national drug policies and/or strategies. Also, there are no relevant actors from the priority areas involved in the evaluation of national drug policies and/or strategies.

**Priority Action 2.3: Promote sub-national/local management of drug policies and/or strategies through greater coordination and/or delegation of responsibilities, as appropriate, between sub-national/local and national agencies, taking into account the socio-cultural, demographic and other differences of each region.**

Honduras has not partially or fully delegated responsibilities on drug issues to subnational/local governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies.

The National Directorate of Investigation and Intelligence (DNII) of Honduras does not have, in its central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, or provide technical support on drug-related issues to subnational/local governments or agencies.

The DNII does not have coordinators, offices, or representatives in subnational or local territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level, to respond to the drug problem.

Honduras does not have a specific and ongoing mechanism or program to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects implemented by subnational or local governments.

**Priority Action 2.4: Engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches to implementation of drug policy, including the exchange of information on emerging substances and new drug trafficking modalities that may affect the private sector, and best practices for denying criminals access to the private sector platforms and technologies that facilitate international trade.**

Honduras does not engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies or the exchange of information and best practices.

**Priority Action 2.5: Formulate or update national drug policies and/or strategies in line with the 2020 OAS Hemispheric Strategy on Drugs and this accompanying Plan of Action, taking into account the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

Honduras takes into account the 2020 Organization of American States (OAS) Hemispheric Strategy on Drugs and its corresponding Plan of Action to formulate or update national drug policies and strategies.

The country's national drug policies and strategies take into account the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**Priority Action 2.6: Integrate a human rights, gender, and social inclusion approach, particularly with respect to at-risk populations, in the process of formulating, implementing, and updating national drug policies and/or strategies.**

Honduras' national drug policies and strategies take the human rights approach into account. Accordingly, Honduras is currently drafting the National Drug Strategy, for which it is using a human rights approach. There are also amendments to the Penal Code that reduce penalties for drug offenses.

Honduras' national drug policies and strategies take into account the gender perspective. Thus, changes are being made to national legislation to incorporate the gender perspective and the empowerment of women.

The country's national drug authority requires technical support to develop and implement gender-sensitive programs that include training courses, workshops, and counseling.

Honduras' current national drug policies and strategies do not take into account the social inclusion approach.

**Priority Action 2.7: Provide adequate financial and other necessary resources for the implementation of drug policies and programs.**

Honduras does not have the necessary resources to implement drug policies and programs. Accordingly, there is a need for hired and trained human resources and a budget that covers needs in this area, such as, inter alia, a budget for studies on substance use, design and implementation of evidence-based prevention programs, program monitoring and evaluation, and technological equipment in all areas.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**3****DESIGN AND COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES, THAT CAN BE HARMONIZED ACROSS RELATED GOVERNMENT POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES, THAT ADDRESS THE FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE DRUG PROBLEM.**

**Priority Action 3.1: Establish and/or strengthen interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms, to achieve a comprehensive, balanced, and multi-disciplinary approach to the drug problem, including its causes and consequences.**

Honduras has interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem in a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences. In this regard, the National Directorate of Investigation and Intelligence (DNII) has formed the Interinstitutional Technical Roundtables on Demand Reduction, Supply Reduction and Chemical Precursors, and in them actions are carried out aimed at combating the drug phenomenon with a comprehensive approach. These Roundtables are made up of all state institutions and other non-governmental organizations and meet periodically. Public and private entities that work on research, treatment and rehabilitation participate in the area of demand reduction. Offices from the National Police and the Armed Forces, the Public Ministry and the Supreme Court of Justice participate in the area of supply reduction. In the area of chemical precursors, public entities with powers in customs, health and environmental control, as well as criminal investigation and State security, participate.

**Priority Action 3.2: Design, implement, and evaluate multisectoral plans and programs based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development, to address and counter the socioeconomic causes and the consequences of the drug problem.**

Honduras has no concrete multisectoral plans or programs to address the socioeconomic causes and consequences of the drug problem.

**Priority Action 3.3: Participate in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions, and their internal processes.**

Honduras participates in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions, and their internal processes. In this regard, Honduras participates in the following programs and activities:

- Groups of Experts of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)
- Technical groups of the Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drug Policies (COPOLAD)
- Technical advice in the area of demand reduction from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- Technical Coordination Mechanism for Demand Reduction at the regional level

- UNODC’s Program for Safe Handling and Disposal of Seized Drugs and Chemical Precursors (STAND), which aims to understand the challenges faced by Honduras in terms of final disposal of chemical substances and precursors
- International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) tools such as the Precursor Incident Communication System (PICS) and Pre-Export Notification (PEN) Online
- Technical Cooperation of the Global SMART (Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends) Programme for the installation of the Early Warning System (EWS) in Honduras
- Exchange of best practices with the Colombian Drug Observatory
- Plan Colombo technical training in drug prevention and treatment
- Honduras has participated in the following joint operations and investigations with other countries aimed at dismantling organized criminal groups involved in illicit drug trafficking and related crimes:
  - Orion Naval Campaign
  - Operation Neptune
  - Operation Domain (*Operación Dominio*)
  - Operation Diamond
  - Maya-Chortí Task Force (Guatemala -Honduras)
  - Lenca-Sumpul Task Force (Honduras-El Salvador)
  - Operation Morazán-Sandino (Honduras-Nicaragua)
  - Extradition treaties with a number of countries
- Prevention, training and equipping campaigns with the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in Honduras

**Priority Action 3.4: Promote comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption.**

Honduras promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. In this regard, the country has the National Policy for the Prevention of Violence against Children and Youth, which promotes the coordination of efforts to reduce rates of violence and social exclusion. On the other hand, these policies are promoted through:

- Creation of the National Prevention and Social Reintegration Program - Aimed at the rehabilitation and social reintegration of people linked to illicit associations (Prevention of Violence)
- Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Program in educational centers

**Priority Action 3.5: Implement measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context.**

Honduras implements measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context. In this regard, the Judiciary has a Gender Unit Office, which is a mechanism for channeling the different institutional actions aimed at achieving substantive equality between men and women as part of the so-called Institutional Strategic Plan of the Judiciary.

**Priority Action 3.6: Implement measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion.**

Honduras implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion. Thus, crime prevention is promoted through educational programs in schools and colleges nationwide and through the Community Police Pilot Program in the department of Santa Barbara, which began in 2022.

**OBJECTIVE**

4

**DESIGN, ADOPT, AND IMPLEMENT ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR MINOR OR NON-VIOLENT DRUG OR DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES, WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NATIONAL, CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL, AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS, AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.**

**Priority Action 4.1: Adopt alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, where appropriate, while safeguarding the sovereignty of states, and ensuring individual accountability, respecting human rights and the gender perspective.**

Honduras' law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses in Article 311, paragraph 2 of the Penal Code.

These measures take into account the human rights approach and take into account the gender perspective. The new Penal Code of Honduras in Article 3 establishes the principle of humanity of penalties and in Article 5 the principle of proportionality. Likewise, regarding the gender approach, it was also incorporated into this legislation and is found in Articles 32, 139, 200, 208, 209, 210, 211, 255, 295 and in preambular paragraph 6.

**Priority Action 4.2: Develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, in collaboration with academic and research institutions, as well as civil society.**

Honduras does not develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate alternative measures to incarceration for minor drug-related offenses.

**Priority Action 4.3: Promote common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, and internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.**

Honduras does not promote a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, or internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.



**OBJECTIVE**  
**5****PROMOTE AND IMPLEMENT, AS APPROPRIATE, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS, AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION, ESPECIALLY TO THOSE AT-RISK POPULATIONS.**

**Priority Action 5.1: Design and implement, in accordance with the characteristics, interests, and needs of each country, inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of at-risk populations.**

Honduras has inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of at-risk populations. In this regard, the Honduran Institute for the Prevention of Alcoholism, Drug Addiction and Drug Dependency (IHADFA) has the Treatment and Rehabilitation Program that assists patients and their families taking into account the gender and social inclusion approach. It also has the *Asociación Hogares Crea Honduras*, which is a program aimed at the prevention and treatment of children and adolescents with problems related to the consumption of psychoactive substances, whose objective is to provide comprehensive care capable of reducing levels of drug consumption and addiction. Methodologically, it is a Bio-Psycho-Social-Spiritual model, framed in a therapeutic community, aimed at modifying behavior through the development of healthy character capacities. In adolescents it is an educational process and in adults it is a re-educational process aimed at the development of a healthy character. Finally, the country has the Victoria Project on Drug Prevention and Rehabilitation for men with alcoholism and drug addiction problems, with the mission of reintegration into society. It is a residential treatment, which intervenes on the spiritual, psychological and pharmacological levels.

**Priority Action 5.2: Disseminate best practices and lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of at-risk populations.**

Honduras disseminates best practices and lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of at-risk populations, such as mechanisms, programs, and interventions, through publications, meetings, and workshops, among others. In this regard, Honduras collaborates technically with the Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drug Policies (COPOLAD) in a program that offers cooperation to include at-risk groups in the prevention and treatment of drug addiction.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**6**

**PROMOTE PROPORTIONATE SENTENCING FOR DRUG-RELATED CRIMES THAT PROVIDES FOR PENALTIES COMMENSURATE WITH THE RELATIVE SERIOUSNESS OF OFFENSES, IN LINE WITH THE INTERNATIONAL DRUG CONVENTIONS AND RESPECTING THE PRINCIPLES OF DUE PROCESS, WITH GENDER PERSPECTIVE, AGE, COMMUNITY, AND A HUMAN RIGHTS APPROACH.**

**Priority Action 6.1: Promote proportionate legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses in accordance with domestic law.**

Honduras promotes the Penal Code which provides for proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses, in accordance with domestic law.

The country does not have special courts or tribunals for minor drug-related offenses.

**Priority Action 6.2: Promote legal reforms as needed, to promote proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses.**

Honduras promotes legal reforms regarding proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses. In this regard, in 2019, the country approved and published the new Penal Code, which came into force in 2020, establishing the principle of proportionality of sentences.

# RESEARCH, INFORMATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION

## OBJECTIVE

1

ESTABLISH OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES ON DRUGS, OR SIMILAR TECHNICAL OFFICES, STRENGTHENING NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS, AND FOSTER SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH TO GENERATE, COLLECT, ORGANIZE, ANALYZE, AND DISSEMINATE INFORMATION TO INFORM THE DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF EVIDENCE-BASED DRUG POLICIES AND STRATEGIES.

**Priority Action 1.1:** Develop and strengthen national drug observatories (NDO) or similar technical offices ensuring they have adequate human and financial resources.

Honduras has the Honduran Observatory on Drugs (OHSD), the creation of which has no legal basis or other similar mechanism.

The OHSD has financial and human resources assigned to carry out its functions, provided by the National Directorate of Investigation and Intelligence (DNII). However, it requires financial resources for the performance of its functions, including technological resources, disbursements for studies on substance use, etc.

**Priority Action 1.2:** Strengthen ties to academic and research institutions, as well as specialized non-governmental organizations, to foster scientific research and studies on the various aspects of the drug phenomenon.

Honduras has established and maintained working relationships with the following academic and research institutions:

- Center for Toxicological Research (CENTOX) of the National Autonomous University of Honduras (UNAH)
- Treatment non-governmental organizations (NGO) such as *Hogares Crea*, *Casa Alianza*, *Proyecto Victoria*, and *Restaurando Vidas*
- Master's Degree in Demography of the National Autonomous University of Honduras and the Demographic Observatory

The country has not carried out studies on the drug problem through universities or specialized research centers, NGO, or other academic and research institutions.

**Priority Action 1.3:** Develop and adopt quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries.

Honduras has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries. In this regard, the supply reduction area of the OHSD has analyzed illicit trafficking trends over time, which allows comparisons to be made with other countries.

However, the country has not conducted drug use studies using the Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) methodology.

On the other hand, Honduras has used the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission - CICAD's standardized indicators for drug information networks to collect, analyze, or report national drug-related information.

The country has not carried out studies using methods that are non-representative of the population or qualitative methodologies to obtain information on drugs that can be shared with other countries that have conducted studies with similar methodologies.

**Priority Action 1.4:** Establish and strengthen national drug information networks (DINs) to carry out long-term monitoring and early warning systems (EWS), including the use of a broad range of research methods and information sources, to develop rapid responses to emerging threats.

**Priority Action 1.5:** Contribute to the Early Warning System of the Americas (Spanish acronym SATA) to gather the available national alerts and disseminate them to member states, so that member states can respond in the shortest possible time to new threats.

**Priority Action 1.6:** Publish updates annually, when possible, on drug supply and drug demand utilizing the information provided on the national drug situation by using information from the national DINs.

The OHSD has a national drug information network (DIN), which interacts through the following means:

Means	Yes	No	Frequency
Meetings	X		Periodically
Document exchange	X		Periodically
Others: Inspections and operations	X		Periodically

The following stakeholders participate in the DIN:

Stakeholders	Yes	No
Universities/Academia	X	
Health institutions	X	
Drug treatment facilities	X	
Law enforcement	X	
Forensic laboratories	X	
Statistical and census institutions		X
Private consultants		X
Civil Society and other social stakeholders	X	

International cooperation organizations	X	
Others: - NGO	X	

The DIN publishes a periodic report.

Honduras does not have an early warning system (EWS) or similar mechanism to identify new psychoactive substances (NPS) and other emerging drug-related threats.

**Priority Action 1.7: Build capacity among relevant stakeholders to enhance the collection, management, and dissemination of drug related information.**

The OHSD carries out trainings with local stakeholders to enhance data collection and management.

The OHSD convenes meetings and other workshops where the results of studies and other data collection activities are shared with local stakeholders.

**Priority Action 1.8: Establish or strengthen forums at which drug researchers can present their findings to policymakers, and encourage their participation in CICAD experts groups.**

Honduras has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers.

**Priority Action 1.9: Foster and disseminate best practices and the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.**

The OHSD does not promote or disseminate best practices or the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.

**OBJECTIVE**  
**2**

**EXPAND ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON DRUG USE AND RELATED ISSUES THROUGH THE USE OF SOUND, SYSTEMATIC DATA COLLECTION PRACTICES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGIES, ENSURING THAT COUNTRIES HAVE THE INFORMATION NECESSARY TO DEVELOP SOUND DEMAND REDUCTION PROGRAMS AND POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 2.1:** Generate information on the incidence, prevalence, and modes of drug use and health impacts of drug use (e.g. non-fatal overdose, fatal overdose, infectious disease transmission), as well as drug use and health impact trends over time using sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies to monitor use across the general public and in key populations, whenever possible utilizing the Inter-American Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) as the standard methodology for epidemiological surveillance.

Honduras has carried out and published the following demand reduction studies during the evaluation period (2019-2023):

Demand Reduction			
Studies	Studies carried out and published		Year of most recent study
	Yes	No	
Survey of secondary school students	X		2022
National household survey (12-64 years)		X	
Cross-section survey of patients in treatment centers		X	
Survey of patients in emergency rooms		X	
Survey of university students		X	
Survey of incarcerated individuals		X	
Studies on drug-related mortality		X	
Studies on drug-related morbidity		X	
Surveys of other target populations: - Study of the Situation of "Maras" and other gangs in Honduras 2019	X		2019

**Priority Action 2.2:** Develop drug treatment information systems that record the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes.

Honduras has a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes.

The national system on treatment data includes the following modalities and interventions:

Modalities and interventions	Yes	No
Community-based services		X

Screening, brief interventions and referral to treatment		X
Medication-assisted treatment	X	
Short-term outpatient or residential treatment	X	
Outpatient treatment	X	
Long-term outpatient or residential treatment	X	
Recovery management		X

Information on patients treated is collected from the following institutions:

Institution	Yes	No
Public health system	X	
Private institutions		X
Nongovernmental organizations	X	
Religious institutions	X	

**Priority Action 2.3:** Evaluate and monitor the impact and the results of treatment and prevention programs using scientific methodologies and make recommendations to update programs based on findings.

Honduras has not carried out studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs or interventions.

The country has not carried out process or intermediate outcome evaluations of prevention or treatment programs.

Honduras has not conducted impact evaluations of its prevention or treatment programs.

The country has mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of the following programs and services in the public health and/or social protection network:

Programs/Services	Mechanisms in place to continuously monitor and evaluate results		Name of the mechanisms
	Yes	No	
Care	X		Monthly supervisions by DINAF to monitor <i>Hogares Crea</i>
Treatment	X		
Rehabilitation	X		
Recovery and social integration	X		



**OBJECTIVE**  
**3**

**EXPAND AND ENHANCE THE COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION ON ILLICIT DRUG PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING, AND RELATED ISSUES, THROUGH THE USE OF SOUND, SYSTEMATIC DATA COLLECTION PRACTICES, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH, AND STANDARDIZED METHODOLOGIES.**

**Priority Action 3.1:** Generate information on illicit drug production, trafficking, drug markets, and related issues, using systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and wherever possible applying comparable methodologies.

Honduras has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs, with the participation of the Honduran Observatory on Drugs (OHSD), the Combined Center for Interagency Operations (CCOI), and the Interinstitutional Technical Roundtable for the Reduction of Drug Supply.

The country has the following information related to supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes:

Supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
Quantification of illicit crop cultivation including crops grown indoors	X		2022
Number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production	X		2022
Quantities of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production seized	X		2022
Number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors)	X		2022
Quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors)	X		2022
Number of seizures of pharmaceutical products		X	
Quantities of seized pharmaceutical products		X	
Number of persons formally charged with drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2021
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2021
Number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs detected and dismantled	X		2022
Number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin, detected and dismantled	X		2022
Chemical composition of seized drugs		X	
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)	X		2022
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering	X		2021
Number of persons convicted of money laundering	X		2021
Number of persons formally charged with trafficking in firearms,		X	

Supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
explosives, ammunition, and related materials			
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials		X	
Number of persons formally charged with diversion of chemical substances		X	
Number of persons convicted of diversion of chemical substances		X	

Honduras does not carry out periodic studies or research on the drug market for illicit drugs.

The country does not carry out studies on the medical and scientific uses and other legal use of narcotics or psychotropic substances subject to the international control system.

**Priority Action 3.2: Conduct studies on the price, purity or concentration, and chemical profile of drugs.**

Honduras collects information for the development of studies on the price of drugs circulating in the illicit market, which is updated periodically.

The country does not conduct chemical characterization or tests of purity for substances that may or may not be subject to international control.

**Priority Action 3.3: Establish and strengthen the relationship between the NDOs, or similar technical offices, and national, and when applicable, local, or sub-national forensic laboratories to bolster the collection of data on the chemical composition of substances and precursors seized.**

In Honduras, those responsible for the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances are:

- Forensic Chemistry Laboratories (TGU/SPS) that are part of the Scientific and Criminal Police Laboratories of the Police Investigation Directorate (DPI)
- Forensic Medicine Toxicology Laboratories of the Public Prosecutor’s Office
- Laboratory of Pharmaceutical Specialties of the College of Pharmaceutical Chemists

These laboratories form part of the national drug information network (DIN). Likewise, Honduras works in coordination with the Customs Laboratories of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Container Control Program (CCP).

Honduras participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances (NPS):

Implements or participates in the program	Type of Training	Targeted Institutions	Year when training was last done
Participates	Forensic Science Symposium	United States Embassy	2019
Participates	XVII Latin American TIAFT Regional Congress on Forensic Toxicology	Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)	2019
Participates	Expansion of illicit consumption of fentanyl and its analogues; regional security risk factors	Forensic Chemical Experts	2021
Participates	Implementation of the national and international drug control treaties.	Personnel in charge of analysis and handling of Substances, Precursors, and Pharmaceutical Products	2021
Participates	Mechanisms for the control of substances under national and international control (INCB)	Personnel in charge of analysis and handling of substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products	2021
Participates	American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD) Symposium	United States Embassy	2022
Participates	The Role of Forensic Laboratories in Early Warning Systems, San Salvador, El Salvador	UNODC	2022
Participates	75 <sup>th</sup> Annual Scientific Conference of the AAFS	Forensic Chemical Experts of the DPI and Toxicological Experts of Forensic Medicine	2023

**Priority Action 3.4:** Strengthen drug information networks in member states by improving the mechanisms used to gather and analyze data to inform the development of public policies that control the illicit supply of drugs.

The DIN of Honduras relies on standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply.

Honduras participates in training activities for DIN stakeholders to improve and strengthen the mechanisms that are needed for the collection and exchange of information on drug supply.

**OBJECTIVE**

4

**PARTICIPATE IN AND STRENGTHEN THE MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM) PROCESS, CONSIDERING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS.**

**Priority Action 4.1:** Regularly collect information and data to evaluate implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action.

For the eighth round of evaluation of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), Honduras collected information on the implementation of the 2021-2025 Hemispheric Drug Action Plan and submitted it in a timely manner for evaluation by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG) in the following thematic areas:

- Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support (2021)
- Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs, and to Address their Causes and Consequences (2022)
- Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring, and Evaluation; and International Cooperation (2023)

**Priority Action 4.2:** Support and facilitate active and timely participation in each of the MEM activities agreed to by member states.

For the eighth evaluation round of the MEM, Honduras designated delegates for the following MEM groups, thereby actively participating in and contributing to the evaluation process:

Thematic Evaluation	National Coordinating Entities (NCEs)	Governmental Expert Group (GEG)
Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support (2021)	Yes	Yes
Measures to Control and Counter the Illicit Cultivation, Production, Trafficking, and Distribution of Drugs and to Address their Causes and Consequences (2022)	Yes	Yes
Institutional Strengthening; Research, Information, Monitoring and Evaluation; and International Cooperation (2023)	Yes	Yes

**Priority Action 4.3:** Disseminate MEM evaluation reports by member states among national stakeholders, other pertinent organizations, and the general public.

Honduras carried out the following periodic activity to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies aimed at national institutions:

Name of the activity	Date	Participating Institutions
Meeting of Technical Committees	2022	All governmental and non-governmental institutions in the national drug information network (DIN)

**Priority Action 4.4: Promote use of the MEM’s findings to identify technical assistance needs.**

Honduras has promoted the analysis of the findings of the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies for national institutions to identify areas where technical assistance is needed to improve national drug policies and programs. Thus, periodic interinstitutional meetings are held with the technical roundtables.

**Priority Action 4.5: Increase hemispheric cooperation and partnerships among member states and sharing of best practices and lessons learned.**

Honduras has reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies and it identified opportunities to increase cooperation and partnerships with other member states or share best practices and lessons learned (horizontal cooperation). In this regard, there has been cooperation with the Costa Rican Observatory on Drugs, the Colombian Drug Observatory of the Ministry of Justice, and the Technical Coordination Mechanism for Demand Reduction in Central America.

# INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

**OBJECTIVE**

**1**

**PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS TO FOSTER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, IMPROVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND EXPERIENCES, AND SHARE BEST PRACTICES AND LESSONS LEARNED ON DRUG POLICIES.**

**Priority Action 1.1:** Develop and implement a plan for promoting and strengthening technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs.

Honduras does not develop or implement a plan for promoting and strengthening technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere nor related initiatives and programs with relevant international and regional organizations.

The country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence on drug interdiction and control via:

- International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL): Connection to all 195 member countries and access to INTERPOL databases, including: Red Notices (Wanted Persons), Purple Notices (Modes of Operation including drug trafficking), INTERPOL secure communication systems, direct communication among all 195 member countries
- Through the Commission of Police Chiefs and Directors of Central America, Mexico, the Caribbean and Colombia, Sub Commissions were created for specific crimes, such as the Sub Technical Anti-Narcotics Commission (SCTAN). The SCTAN focuses on regional anti-drug operations (intelligence, micro-trafficking, trafficking, and criminal structures related to this type of illicit activities). It is worth noting that the INTERPOL Regional Bureau in El Salvador operates as a technical secretariat, which means that INTERPOL services and tools are used for SCTAN operations
- The Information and Analysis Department of the Honduran Air Force has exchanged information with representatives of the Air Forces of different countries such as Colombia, Guatemala, Belize, and Mexico, in support of the fight against drug trafficking. Also through liaison with the Combined Center for Interagency Operations (CCOI)

Honduras promotes the exchange with member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with international and regional organizations, of best practices in training, specialization, and professional development of staff responsible for implementing its national drug policies and strategies. Thus, the country promotes the following exchange activities:

- Technical Cooperation from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to develop a methodology for the drafting of a demand reduction drug policy
- Regional Meeting of Drug Trafficking Prosecutors
- Group of Experts of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD)

The country participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption. Thus, the country participates through the Central American Armed Forces Conference (CFAC). Honduras, together with other countries in the region, carries out border surveillance operations, which leads to the identification of various crimes that are committed at the border. In addition, intensified monitoring of cross-border cash transportation is carried out, coordinated by the countries of the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America (GAFILAT).

In Honduras, there are bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries, such as Nicaragua, El Salvador, and Guatemala, focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

These mechanisms are used on a quarterly basis, through the Task Forces that carry out operations at a permanent level in the various border sectors of their country of responsibility, which meet to coordinate work and exchange information.

**Priority Action 1.2: Promote technology transfers and information sharing among and between member states and international organizations.**

Honduras has not promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations.

The country has promoted information sharing among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations. In this regard, information is exchanged within the framework of the CFAC, meetings of the Maya-Chorti and Lenca Sumpul Task Forces, and through the implementation of Operation Morazán Sandino. Likewise, in intelligence matters, information is shared within the framework of the Central American Regional Intelligence Conference (CRIC) and with liaison officers assigned in the different countries. Furthermore, Honduras shares cooperation mechanisms to combat transnational organized crime with Guatemala in the High-Level Security Group and with Mexico in the High-Level Group on Security and Justice.

**Priority Action 1.3: Promote the dissemination of good practices and exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations.**

Honduras promotes the dissemination of good practices and the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies. Accordingly, the country exchanges information within the framework of the CFAC, meetings of the Maya-Chorti and Lenca Sumpul Task Forces and through the implementation of Operation Morazán Sandino. Similarly, in the area of intelligence, information is shared within the framework of the CRIC.



**OBJECTIVE**  
**2**

**STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS DEFINED IN THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, MAINTAINING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.**

**Priority Action 2.1:** Strengthen regional and international cooperation by competent authorities to investigate and prosecute criminals on drug-related offenses.

The competent authorities of Honduras carry out cooperation activities at the regional and international level to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses, through the Unit for International Legal Assistance. Honduras has carried out cooperation activities with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) through the exchange of intelligence information, as well as judicial assistance for investigation, extradition and judicialization processes, achieving the securing of assets in Honduras and the United States and requests for the investigation of members of the criminal organization called the Atlantic Cartel. In addition, cooperation efforts are carried out with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in order to provide evidence in cases that have legal proceedings in the United States. These cooperation activities take human rights into account.

**Priority Action 2.2:** Strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses.

Honduras carries out activities to strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses.

**Priority Action 2.3:** Enact national legislation and/or take administrative actions, as appropriate, to more fully implement the obligations set forth within these legal instruments.

Honduras has enacted and adopted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), legislation to improve the implementation of the obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality.

	Enacted	Adopted	Name of the legislation / administrative measures or actions
Legislative Actions/ Measures	X	X	Reform of the Penal Code
Administrative Actions/ Measures			

**Priority Action 2.4:** Promote the accession, ratification, and implementation of the international legal instruments related to the world drug problem and related crimes.

Honduras has ratified or acceded to the following international legal instruments:

Conventions and Protocols		Yes	No
United Nations Conventions	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	X	
	Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000		
	Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air	X	
	Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition	X	
	Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961	X	
	Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971	X	
	Convention against Corruption, 2003	X	
Inter-American Conventions	American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, and Other Related Materials (CIFTA), 1997	X	
	Convention against Corruption, 1996	X	
	Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters, 1992	X	

## EVALUATIVE SUMMARY

### INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

#### **Objective 1**

**Establish and/or strengthen national drug authorities, placing them at a high political level and providing them with the necessary capabilities, resources, and competencies to coordinate formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of national drug policies.**

CICAD notes that Honduras has a national drug authority, which has a legal basis. Moreover, CICAD observes that, in the country, there is an annual budget for the national drug authority, which is independent. Moreover, CICAD notes that Honduras has an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update national drug policies and/or strategies and that the national drug authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory and international cooperation, but it does not coordinate the area of program evaluation.

#### **Objective 2**

**Formulate, implement, evaluate, and update comprehensive national drug policies and/or strategies that promote balanced, multidisciplinary, and evidence-based approaches, while fully respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, under the principle of common and shared responsibility, consistent with obligations of parties under international law, and take into account gender, age, community, cultural context, and socially inclusive development.**

CICAD notes that Honduras collects and uses evidence as a basis for formulating and updating national drug policies and/or strategies. Additionally, CICAD observes the involvement of relevant actors from the priority areas in the development, implementation and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies, except for the country's regional and/or local governments. However, there are no relevant actors involved in the evaluation of said policies and/or strategies. CICAD notes that Honduras has not partially or fully delegated responsibilities on drug issues to subnational/local governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies, and the national drug authority does not have in its central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, and provide technical support on drug-related issues to subnational/local governments or agencies. Moreover, the national drug authority does not have coordinators, offices, or representatives in the sub-national or local territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level to respond to the drug problem. Additionally, the country does not have a specific and ongoing mechanism or program to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects implemented by sub-national/local governments. CICAD observes that Honduras does not engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange information and best practices. CICAD notes that Honduras takes into account the OAS 2020 Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its corresponding Plan of Action to formulate or update national

drug policies and strategies. Moreover, these policies and strategies take into account the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. CICAD observes that the country's national drug policies and strategies take into account the human rights approach and the gender perspective but not the social inclusion approach. Additionally, CICAD notes that Honduras does not have the necessary resources to implement drug policies and programs.

### **Objective 3**

**Design and coordinate national drug policies, that can be harmonized across related government policies and/or strategies, that address the fundamental causes and consequences of the drug problem.**

CICAD notes that Honduras has interagency and multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem through a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences. However, CICAD observes that the country does not have concrete multisectoral plans and programs to address the causes and socioeconomic consequences of the drug problem. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Honduras participates in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions and their internal processes. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. Also, CICAD notes that Honduras implements measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion.

### **Objective 4**

**Design, adopt, and implement alternatives to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug or drug-related offenses, while taking into account national, constitutional, legal, and administrative systems, and in accordance with relevant international instruments.**

CICAD notes that Honduras' law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, which respect human rights and take into account the gender perspective in accordance with relevant international instruments. However, CICAD observes that the country does not develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate these measures, nor promotes a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, or internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration.

**Objective 5**

**Promote and implement, as appropriate, in accordance with the policies, laws and needs of each country, comprehensive programs that promote social inclusion, especially to those at-risk populations.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that Honduras has inter-agency and multisectoral programs that promote the social inclusion of individuals, families, and communities affected by the drug problem, taking into account the specific needs of at-risk populations. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country disseminates best practices and lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of people in at-risk situations.

**Objective 6**

**Promote proportionate sentencing for drug-related crimes that provides for penalties commensurate with the relative seriousness of offenses, in line with the international drug conventions and respecting the principles of due process, with gender perspective, age, community, and a human rights approach.**

CICAD observes that Honduras promotes legislation that provides for proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses in accordance with domestic law but does not have special courts for these offenses. On the other hand, CICAD notes that the country promotes legal reforms regarding proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses.

**RESEARCH, INFORMATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION****Objective 1**

**Establish or strengthen national observatories on drugs, or similar technical offices, strengthening national drug information systems, and foster scientific research to generate, collect, organize, analyze, and disseminate information to inform the development and implementation of evidence-based drug policies and strategies.**

CICAD notes that Honduras has a National Drug Observatory (NDO), which has no legal basis but has been assigned financial and human resources to carry out its functions. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has established and maintained working relationships with academic and research institutions but has not carried out studies on the drug problem through them. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Honduras has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries, has not carried out studies on drug use applying the SIDUC methodology and has used the CICAD standard indicators for drug information networks for the collection, analysis, and reporting of national drug related data and information. However, the country has not carried out studies using methods that are non-representative of the population to obtain information on drugs that can be shared with other countries that have carried out studies with similar methodologies. Nevertheless, CICAD notes that Honduras' observatory has a

national drug information network (DIN), which interacts through meetings, document exchange, inspections and operations, and publishes a periodic report. However, the country does not have an early warning system (EWS) or similar mechanism to identify NPS or other emerging drug-related threats. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Honduras' observatory carries out training sessions with local stakeholders to enhance data collection and management, as well as meetings and other workshops where the results of studies and other information gathering activities are shared with local stakeholders. Nevertheless, CICAD observes that the country has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers. Also, CICAD notes that Honduras' observatory does not promote or disseminate best practices or the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states.

### **Objective 2**

**Expand access to information on drug use and related issues through the use of sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies, ensuring that countries have the information necessary to develop sound demand reduction programs and policies.**

CICAD notes that Honduras has carried out and published two demand reduction studies during the evaluation period (2019-2023). Additionally, CICAD observes that the country has a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes. However, CICAD notes that Honduras has not carried out studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs or interventions, nor process or intermediate outcome evaluations or impact evaluations of these programs. On the other hand, the country has mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation and recovery and social integration programs and services in the public health and/or social protection network.

### **Objective 3**

**Expand and enhance the collection and dissemination of information on illicit drug production, trafficking, and related issues, through the use of sound, systematic data collection practices, scientific research, and standardized methodologies.**

CICAD notes that Honduras has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs and has information related to supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes. However, the country does not carry out periodic studies or research on the drug market for illicit drugs nor the medical and scientific uses or other legal use of narcotics or psychotropic substances, subject to the international control system. CICAD observes that Honduras collects information on drug prices but not on purity or concentration or chemical profile of these substances. Also, the country does not conduct chemical characterization or tests of purity for substances that may or may not be subject to international control. CICAD notes that Honduras has agencies that are responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances, and are part of the national

drug information network (DIN). Additionally, the country participates in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. CICAD observes that Honduras' DIN relies on standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply and that the country participates in training activities for DIN stakeholders to improve and strengthen the mechanisms that are needed for the collection and exchange of information on drug supply.

#### **Objective 4**

**Participate in and strengthen the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) process, considering its recommendations.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that, for the eighth round of evaluation of the MEM, Honduras collected information on the implementation of the Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2021-2025 and submitted it in a timely manner for evaluation by the Governmental Expert Group (GEG). CICAD observes that, for the eighth evaluation round of the MEM, the country designated delegates for all the MEM groups, actively participating and contributing to the evaluation process. Also, CICAD notes that Honduras carried out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has promoted the analysis of the findings of MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies for national institutions to identify areas where technical assistance is needed to improve national drug-related policies and programs. Additionally, CICAD notes that Honduras has reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies and identified opportunities to increase cooperation and partnerships with other member states or share best practices and lessons learned (horizontal cooperation).

### **INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

#### **Objective 1**

**Promote and strengthen cooperation and coordination mechanisms to foster technical assistance, improve exchange of information and experiences, and share best practices and lessons learned on drug policies.**

CICAD notes that Honduras does not develop or implement a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere nor related initiatives and programs with relevant international regional organizations. However, the country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. Moreover, Honduras promotes the exchange, with member states and with states outside of the Western Hemisphere, and with relevant international and regional organizations, of best practices on training, specialization, and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing the national drug policies and strategies. Additionally, the country participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others.

Furthermore, the country has bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries, focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to drug trafficking and related crimes. However, CICAD observes that Honduras has not promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations but has promoted information sharing among them. Additionally, CICAD notes that the country promotes the dissemination of good practices or the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies.

### **Objective 2**

**Strengthen international cooperation as defined in the international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, maintaining respect for human rights.**

CICAD notes with satisfaction that the competent authorities of Honduras carry out cooperative activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country carries out activities to strengthen regional and international cooperation to facilitate, where appropriate, mutual legal assistance, extradition, and transfer of proceedings, in accordance with international legal instruments, when investigating and prosecuting criminals on drug-related offenses. Additionally, CICAD notes that Honduras has enacted and adopted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), legislative measures to improve the implementation of the obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has ratified or acceded to all of the international legal instruments of the United Nations and all of the OAS Inter-American legal instruments regarding the world drug problem and related crimes.







**ORGANIZATION OF AMERICAN STATES (OAS)  
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