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# MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

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

## Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

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

2023





**MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)**

# SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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**Evaluation Report on Drug Policies:**

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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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a national drug authority. However, there are national competent authorities not focused solely on drugs: the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment and the Medicinal Cannabis Authority.

**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.**

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government (national and sub-national) to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update evidence-based national drug policies and/or strategies. In that sense, there are national competent authorities that work collaboratively across national and sub-national levels of government and link with agencies as needed for drug policy work.

Despite the country not having a national drug authority, the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment and the Medicinal Cannabis Authority coordinate some aspects related to the area of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and international cooperation. However, they do not coordinate the areas 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment collects and uses evidence as a basis for formulating and updating national drug policies and/or strategies. In that sense, the country has a sub-unit within the Health Security Unit of the Ministry which collects epidemiologic data from treatment records.

**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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the relevant actors from the priority areas are involved in the development, implementation, and updating of national drug policies and strategies.

Relevant actors	Development	Implementation	Evaluation	Update
Health Ministry	X	X		X
Interior Ministry				
Justice Ministry				
Education Ministry				
Regional and/or local governments				
Scientific community/academia				
Civil society				
Private sector				
<b>Others:</b> - Medicinal Cannabis Authority	X	X		X

The country’s Interior Ministry, Justice Ministry, Education Ministry, regional and/or local governments, scientific community/academia, civil society and private sector are not involved in the development, implementation, evaluation or updating of the national drug policies and 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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has delegated partial responsibilities on drug issues to local/sub-national governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies in coordination with the national drug authority. In that sense, the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment works collaboratively across national and sub-national levels of government and links with agencies as needed for drug policy work. However, the country has not established a national drug authority focused solely on drug policy responsibilities nor a completed drug policy guiding document.

The national competent authorities of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines do not have, in their central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, or provide technical support to local or sub-national governments or agencies on drug-related issues. However, said authorities coordinate drug-related issues across agencies.

The national competent authorities of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines do not have coordinators, offices, or representatives within the subnational/local territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level, to respond to the drug problem. The decentralized coordination structure is not formally outlined; however, it occurs based on the functions of various entities involved, e.g., the police force will handle anti-trafficking, the Medicinal Cannabis Authority handles alternative development to move illegal cannabis farmers into the legal cannabis industry, the Mental health department with the Ministry of Health, Wellness and the Environment handles substance abuse treatment, educational outreach on drug abuse and training of police officers on encounters with persons who abuse drugs.

The country has a specific and ongoing mechanism to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects carried out by sub-national or local governments through ministerial, agency, and competent authority budgets.

**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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines engages private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange information and best practices. The area within the private sector entities that develops these approaches is the Medicinal Cannabis Industry. In this sense, the Medicinal Cannabis Industry has private sector investments

from companies that are innovating new methods to grow cannabis legally to international standards for the manufacture of medicinal products of quality that contribute to supply and demand reduction through cooperatives with traditional cultivators.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not take into account the Organization of American States (OAS) 2020 Hemispheric Strategy on Drugs and its corresponding Plan of Action to formulate or update national drug policies and strategies. The country does not have a formal national drug policy.

The country's national drug policies or strategies do not take into account the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a formal national drug policy.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' national drug policies and strategies do not take into account the human rights approach.

The country's national drug policies and strategies do not take into account the gender perspective.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' national drug policies and strategies take into account the social inclusion approach. In this sense, the Medicinal Cannabis Industry stands as an example where all farmers of all social strata are included into the industry especially traditional cultivators.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have the necessary financial 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.**

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have interagency or multisectoral policy and technical coordination mechanisms to address the drug problem in a comprehensive, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach, including its causes and consequences.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have concrete multisectoral plans or programs to address the causes and socioeconomic 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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not participate in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions and their internal processes.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. In this sense, the country provides a biannual Crime Prevention Exhibition and a weekly radio program on the National Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) called "Police on the Beat", where the organization would sensitize the listening public on various issues affecting them especially with regards to drug trafficking. This forum provides the public with a means to report crimes that are affecting their communities, in a manner that ensures confidentiality and efficacy. The Police also has a website and a popular social media presence, which provides additional layers of cooperation between the police and the public.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not implement measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion. In this sense, the country carries out the following:

- Biannual Crime Prevention Exhibition
- Weekly radio programs hosted by the Police
- Pan Against Crime (PAC) program, where young persons are taught how to play the pan
- Coastguard youth development summer program
- Police youth clubs
- Police band summer program, where young people are taught music

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses through the Criminal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code. These measures respect human rights and take into account the gender perspective in accordance with relevant international instruments. In this sense, gender specific tasks are conducted.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not develop mechanisms to monitor and evaluate alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent 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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have inter-agency or 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.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not disseminate best practices or lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of at-risk populations, such as mechanisms, programs, and interventions, through publications, meetings, workshops, among others.

**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 proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses in accordance with domestic law.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes the Criminal Procedure Rules and the Criminal 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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not promote 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.**

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a national drug observatory (NDO) or similar technical office.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has established and maintained working relationships with academic and research institutions. In this sense, the Medicinal Cannabis Authority has partnered with the Orange Hill Technology Center in the surveillance of cannabis strains being cultivated in the country. A consequence of the ongoing study has been positive engagement of traditional cultivators by government officials. This interaction allows the face-to-face discussion on the benefits of legal cannabis production in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines with a view to supply reduction of illicit cannabis.

The country has not carried out studies on the drug problem through universities or specialized research centers, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) or other academic or 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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not developed or adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies or information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries.

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 carried out 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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have an early warning system (EWS) or similar mechanism to identify new psychoactive substances (NPS) or 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.

Not applicable.

**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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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.

Not applicable.

**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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not carried out or published demand reduction studies in the evaluation period (2019-2023).

**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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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 service	X	
Screening, Brief Interventions, and Referral to Treatment	X	
Medication-Assisted Treatment	X	
Short-Term In-Patient or Residential Treatment	X	
Outpatient Treatment	X	
Long-term Residential Treatment	X	
Recovery Management	X	

Data on patients treated is collected from the following institutions:

Institution	Yes	No
Public health system	X	
Private institutions		X
Non-governmental 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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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 and treatment programs.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not conducted impact evaluations of its prevention or treatment programs.

The country does not have mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation, or recovery and social integration programs and services in the public health care 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.**

**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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs. The Narcotics Unit participates in these mechanisms.

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	
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	
Number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors)		X	
Quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors)		X	
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		2022
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession, and trafficking	X		2022
Number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs detected and dismantled		X	
Number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin detected and dismantled		X	
Chemical composition of seized drugs		X	
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)		X	
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering	X		2022
Number of persons convicted of money laundering	X		2022
Number of persons formally charged with trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials	X		2022
Number of persons convicted of trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials	X		2022

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not carry out periodic studies and 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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not collect information for the development of studies on the drug price, purity or concentration, or chemical profile of drugs.

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 the Saint Vincent and the Grenadines there is no agency responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances (NPS).

The country does not implement or participate in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including NPS.

**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.**

Not applicable.

**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), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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) 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, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines designated delegates for the following MEM groups, actively participating 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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not carried out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions.



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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not 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.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies or 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.**

**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.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines develops and implements a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs. In this sense, Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) Advisors carried out a project that was aimed at strengthening of Anti-Money Laundering (AML)/Countering the Financing of Terrorism (CFT) Supervisory Framework of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; this was useful technical assistance. There was also a Risk-Based Approach to AML/CFT Supervision and Monitoring project held during the period May 2020 to December 2022, which involved information sharing and improved coordination mechanisms. Additionally, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) International Academy for Tax Crime Investigation shared investigative techniques for effective use of banking information which involved the exchange of information and experiences in a virtual workshop held in October 2020.

The CFATF Advisors reviewed Recommendation 22 and the country’s compliance to it and shared the deficiencies which helped to improve the AML/CFT framework especially as it relates to supervision. During the period September 2019 – December 2021 firstly there was a strengthening of the AML/CFT Supervisory Frameworks of Member Countries Supervision Project aimed at strengthening of AML/CFT Supervisory Framework of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. With the assistance of COSUNs, namely the Government of Canada and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the CFATF conducted a survey to assess the nature, extent, drivers, and impact of Members AML/CFT supervisory regime. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines participated in this information- gathering exercise which was beneficial to developing key and specific areas of support to help supervisors with the supervision, monitoring and regulation of Financial Institutions (“FIs”) and Designated Non-Financial Businesses and Professions (“DNFBPs”) for compliance with AML/CFT requirements commensurate with their risks. Secondly, there was a Risk-Based Approach (RBA) to AML/CFT Supervision and Monitoring project held during the period May 2020 to December 2022.

Through the RBA Toolkit, participants learned how to build on findings from the risk assessments, align legislation with risk-based approach, develop supervision/monitoring strategies, develop institutional risk assessment tools, assess institutional risks on an ongoing basis, apply supervision and monitoring instruments, follow-up on remedial measures, collaborate with

reporting entities, and use data and IT to support supervision. The World Bank Risk also assisted with their RBA template which was applied in 2020-2022 in relation to the supervisory aspects.

The Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) has engaged with the OECD on in virtual workshop in October 2020 which involved information sharing dealing with predicate offences of money laundering such as drug trafficking and tax crimes. The OECD International Academy for Tax Crime Investigation shares investigative techniques for effective use of banking information.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control.

The country 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 through meetings and conferences with Regional Security System (RSS), Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS), US Southern Command and the Support Program to Combat Organized Crime in the Caribbean Region (ALCORCA). This program fights organized crime in the Caribbean Region with support from the French Embassy.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others. In this sense, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' FIU has attended training on Money Laundering and Public Corruption, for example:

- Organization of American States (OAS) – Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DTCO) XLVIII Virtual Meeting of the Group of Experts for the Control of Money Laundering (GELAVEX), 30th Anniversary of the GELAVEX Special Session on cooperation in investigations and procedures related to corruption, tax crimes and associated money laundering, July 16, 2020
- Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Caribbean Forum on Maritime Crime virtual series, second session on arms smuggling and trafficking by sea, August 25, 2020
- UNODC Global Programme against Money Laundering, Proceeds of Crime and the Financing of Terrorism (GPML) and CARICOM IMPACS two-day webinar on Trade-Based Money Laundering, September 9-10, 2020
- OAS-DTCO Virtual Seminar on National Risk Assessment (NRA) on Money Laundering for Latin America and the Caribbean, October 26, 27 and 29, 2020
- First Virtual Exchange of Crime Analysis Experiences in the Americas, Launching of the Inter-American Community of Crime Analysts, August 31, 2021
- Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Financial Investigations for Public Corruption Course, May 14-22, 2022, in El Salvador

In Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, there are bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries, focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to drug trafficking and related crimes with Grenada, Saint Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, and other countries including the United States. Approximately five Mutual Legal Assistance requests are processed per year.

**Priority Action 1.2: Promote technology transfers and information sharing among and between member states and international organizations. (Questions 6, 7)**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations through the RSS and CARICOM IMPACS.

The country has promoted information sharing among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations. Based on intelligence and activities, the country receives formal and informal intelligence via emails, instant messaging, etc.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes the dissemination of good practices and the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug policies through telephone calls, instant messaging, formal letters, and Emails.

**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 in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines carry out cooperation activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. In this sense, the country has extradition treaties with various countries and also information and intelligence sharing.

The country takes human rights into account when carrying out these activities by respecting everyone's human rights as dictated by the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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 through formal and informal communication with all stakeholders, e.g., Law Enforcement, and Attorney General's Office, etc.

**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.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not enacted or adopted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), legislative or administrative measures and actions to improve implementation of obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality.

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

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has ratified or acceded to the following international legal instruments:

Conventions and Protocols		Yes	No	
United Nations Conventions	Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	X	
		Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air	X	
		Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing 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	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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a national drug authority. CICAD observes that the Priority Actions to grant national drug policy entities the authority to guide and coordinate the formulation, implementation, monitoring, and evaluation of national drug policies and to allocate the necessary resources (material, financial, and human) for the effective functioning of the national drug authorities are not applicable to the country. However, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has an ongoing coordination and collaboration mechanism among agencies and other levels of government (national and sub-national) to formulate, implement, monitor, evaluate, and update evidence-based national drug policies and/or strategies. Despite the country not having a national drug authority, there are two competent institutions that coordinate some aspects related to the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, comprehensive and sustainable alternative development programs, and international cooperation. However, they do 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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, evaluation and updating of national drug policies and strategies, except for the country's Interior Ministry, Justice Ministry, Education Ministry, regional and/or local governments, scientific community/academia, civil society and private sector. Moreover, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has delegated partial responsibilities on drug issues to local/sub-national governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies. However, the national competent authorities of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines do not have, in their central structure, an office or operational unit to promote, coordinate, train, or provide technical support to local or sub-national governments or agencies on drug-related issues. Also, these institutions do not have coordinators, offices, or representatives within the sub-national/local



territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level, to respond to the drug problem. On the other hand, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a specific and ongoing mechanism to transfer funds or finance drug initiatives or projects carried out by sub-national or local governments. In addition, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines engages private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange information and best practices. However, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not take into account the OAS 2020 Hemispheric Drug Strategy and its corresponding Plan of Action to formulate or update national drug policies and strategies, nor does the country take the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development into account. Furthermore, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' national drug policies and strategies do not take into account the human rights approach or the gender perspective, however, their national drug policies and strategies do take the social inclusion approach into account. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have the necessary financial 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have 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. Moreover, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have concrete multisectoral plans or programs to address the causes and socioeconomic consequences of the drug problem. Additionally, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not participate in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, and institutions and their internal processes. However, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. Nonetheless, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not implement measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context approaches. On the other hand, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines' 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not develop mechanisms to monitor or evaluate these measures. Additionally, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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.**

CICAD notes with concern that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not disseminate best practices or lessons learned to improve institutional responses to the needs of at-risk populations.

**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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes legislation that provides for proportional legal sentencing for minor drug-related offences, in accordance with domestic law. However, the country does not have special courts or tribunals for these offenses. Moreover, CICAD notes that the country does not promote 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a national drug observatory (NDO) or similar technical office. However, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has established and maintained working relationships with academic and research institutions. Nevertheless, it has not carried out studies on the drug problem through them. Moreover, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies or information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries. In addition, CICAD notes that 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 carried out studies with similar methodologies. Moreover, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have an early warning system (EWS) or similar mechanism to identify NPS or other emerging drug-related threats. Additionally, CICAD notes that the Priority Action to Build capacity among relevant stakeholders to enhance the collection, management, and dissemination of drug-related information is not applicable to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. CICAD also observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers. CICAD notes that the Priority Action to foster and disseminate best practices and the exchange of successful experiences in research among member states is not applicable to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

### **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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not carried out or published any demand reduction studies during the evaluation period (2019-2023). However, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, and available information on treatment outcomes. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not carried out studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs or interventions, nor has it carried out process, intermediate outcome, or impact evaluations of these programs. Additionally, the country does not have mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment, rehabilitation or 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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 on the illicit drug market or on the medical and scientific use and other legal uses of narcotics or psychotropic substances, subject to international control systems. Moreover, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not collect information for the development of studies on the drug price, purity or concentration, or chemical profile of drugs nor does it conduct chemical characterization or tests of purity for substances that may or may not be subject to international control. Furthermore, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have an agency that is responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances. Additionally, the country does not implement or participate in periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances.

### **Objective 4**

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

CICAD notes that, for the eighth round of evaluation of the MEM, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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). Additionally, CICAD observes that, for the eighth evaluation round of the MEM, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines designated delegates for all the MEM groups, actively participating and contributing to the evaluation process. However, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not carried out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions. Moreover, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not reviewed the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies or 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 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines develops and implements a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states and with states outside the Western Hemisphere, as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs. However, the country has not established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. On the other hand, the country 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, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, and corruption, among others. Moreover, 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. Moreover, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations, as well as information sharing among them. Furthermore, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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 that the competent authorities in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines carry out cooperation activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. Moreover, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines 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. However, CICAD notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not enacted or adopted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), legislative or administrative measures and actions to improve implementation of obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality. Nevertheless, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has ratified or acceded to the majority of the international legal instruments of the United Nations, and to the

majority of the OAS Inter-American legal instruments regarding the world drug problem and related crimes.





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