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MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

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

Bolivia

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

2023



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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.

Bolivia has the Comprehensive Policy Council for the Elimination of Illicit Trafficking in Controlled Substances, Surplus Coca, and Prevention of Drug Consumption (CPI) as its national drug authority and highest body for the adoption, monitoring, and evaluation of drug policies. It was established in 2021 and reports to the presidency of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

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 legal basis for the CPI is Article 2 of Law 1358 of 2021.

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

In Bolivia there is an annual budget for the national drug authority, which is integrated with the budget of the following institutions: Ministry of Health and Sports, Ministry of Education, Office of the Public Prosecutor, Ministry of Rural Development and Lands, Ministry of Government, General Directorate of Penitentiary Regime and Financial Investigations Unit. The annual budget amounts for the national drug authority for 2019-2023 are presented below:

Year	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Annual budget amount (U.S. dollars)	63,646,277	64,072,544	67,682,554	70,617,270	73,699,152

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.

Bolivia 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 national drug policies and/or strategies. The country formulates and establishes its drug policy through a five-year strategy, which is developed with the participation and coordination of the national institutions directly involved. Monitoring and evaluation of the

implementation of the Strategy against the Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control of the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025 is carried out annually.

Thus, in the country, coordination and collaboration with the national government institutions directly involved is carried out through regular and special meetings of the CPI. At these meetings, provisions are established through multi-ministerial resolutions such as those adopting the Strategy and annual reports on its implementation, and others at the initiative of any CPI member ministry.

Bolivia's national drug authority coordinates the areas of demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, drug observatory, international cooperation, and program evaluation. The National Council for the Revaluation, Production, Commercialization, Industrialization, and Research of Coca (CONCOCA), the highest body responsible for setting coca policy, coordinates integral and sustainable alternative development programs, since coca leaf production is legal in Bolivia under the Law to Combat Trafficking of Controlled Substances (Law 913) and the General Coca Law (Law 906), both enacted in 2017.

**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 Bolivia, the Vice Ministry of Social Defense and Controlled Substances (VDSSC) (as Technical Secretariat of the Comprehensive Policy Council for the Elimination of Illicit Trafficking in Controlled Substances, Surplus Coca, and Prevention of Drug Consumption – CPI) collects and uses evidence as a basis for formulating and updating national drug policies and/or strategies. In this regard, the VDSSC follows up, monitors, and evaluates the implementation of the Strategy each year, through technical sheets that are filled out by all the national institutions directly involved in the four components of the Strategy. This information is systematized and documented in a report, which is submitted to the CPI (Interior Minister), outlining drug trafficking trends and the expansion of coca cultivation in Bolivia; is a primary source of statistical data on interdiction, controlled substance control, and rationalization/eradication of surplus coca crops, drug use prevention actions, and international coordination through joint commission meetings. Annual reports issued by the United Nations, the Organization of American States (OAS), the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), and others on drug-related issues are also taken into account.

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 Bolivia, the following relevant actors from priority areas are involved in the formulation, implementation, evaluation, and updating of national drug policies and/or strategies:

Relevant actors	Development	Implementation	Evaluation	Update
Health Ministry	X	X	X	X
Interior Ministry	X	X	X	X
Justice Ministry				X
Education Ministry	X	X	X	X
Regional and/or local governments	X	X	X	X

Scientific community/academia				
Civil society	X			
Private sector	X			
Others:				
Ministry of Rural Development and Lands	X	X	X	X
Office of the Public Prosecutor	X	X		X
Bolivian Observatory on Citizen Security and the Fight against Drugs (OBSCD)	X	X	X	X
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	X		X	
Ministry of the Presidency	X		X	
Ministry of Defense	X		X	

The country's scientific community/academia does not participate in the development, implementation, evaluation or updating 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.

Bolivia has partially delegated drug-related responsibilities to local/sub-national governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies, in coordination with the CPI. Responsibilities for demand reduction are thus shared at the national and sub-national (departmental and municipal) levels. Likewise, the guidelines for general State actions and policies are established at the national level, based on which departmental and municipal governments prepare their strategic plans.

Bolivia's national drug authority has, in its central structure, the VDSSC (as CPI Technical Secretariat) to promote, coordinate, train, and provide technical support on drug-related issues to sub-national/local governments.

Through the Drug Use Prevention Unit, the VDSSC generates technical assistance actions for sub-national governments to implement policies on drug use prevention at the family and community level.

As part of the Comprehensive Prevention, Treatment, Rehabilitation and Reintegration Network for people with addictions and their communities, the Ministry of Education carries out drug use prevention actions in schools with sub-national governments; in addition, the Ministry of Health is responsible for prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts with sub-national governments.

Bolivia's national drug authority does not have coordinators, offices, or representatives within its sub-national/local territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level, to respond to the drug problem.

Bolivia 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.

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.

Bolivia does not engage private sector entities to develop innovative approaches in the implementation of drug policies and exchange 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.

Bolivia takes 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/or strategies. In this regard, it takes into account the fundamental principles and elements as well as the guidelines established in the OAS 2020 Hemispheric Strategy on Drugs and its Hemispheric Plan of Action, inherent to the control of supply and demand, which are reflected in the Strategy to Fight Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025 and the 2023-2025 National Drug Demand Reduction Plan of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Bolivia's national drug policies and/or strategies take into account the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Economic and Social Development Plan 2021-2025 (PEDES), Rebuilding the Economy to Live Well, toward Import Substitution Industrialization, is the medium-term plan of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and is organized into 10 strategic axes linked to the 13 pillars of the 2025 Bicentennial Patriotic Agenda, which correlate with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The PEDES establishes Axis 7, Judicial reform, digitalized and transparent public governance, and comprehensive security and defense through national sovereignty, with goal 7.4, Guarantee the defense of society and the preservation of public order through the Bolivian Police; Fight against the illicit trafficking of controlled substances; Control surplus coca leaf crops, and Prevent drug use. Its goal is indirectly linked to SDGs 3 (Good health and well-being), 4 (Quality education), and 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). The PEDES is also linked to the Strategy to Fight Illicit

Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025.

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.

Bolivia's national drug policies and strategies integrate a cross-cutting human rights approach, mainly in drug interdiction operations, where the General Directorate of the Special Force to Combat Drug Trafficking together with the Office of the Prosecutor for Controlled Substances are required to observe due process with respect to the human rights of persons apprehended.

With regard to the rationalization/eradication of surplus coca crops, dialogue and consultation processes are implemented with respect for human rights in the coca crop reduction intervention areas.

Bolivia's national drug policies and strategies integrate a cross-cutting gender perspective. In carrying out their functions, national institutions apply the gender approach mainly in the areas of demand and supply reduction, where women are actively involved in training, technical assistance, and other activities.

Bolivia's national drug authority needs technical support to develop and implement programs with a gender perspective. The gender perspective is a social construct that must be enabled by the institutions that develop and implement drug policies. For this reason, technical support from international organizations is essential to strengthen knowledge of the gender perspective as it applies to all the components of the Strategy.

Bolivia's national drug policies and strategies take into account the social inclusion approach. The demand reduction component targets vulnerable populations, children, adolescents, families, Indigenous people, peasants, and communities so that they participate in drug use prevention actions, mainly at the sub-national level, as shown in the National Demand Reduction Plan.

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

Bolivia has 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.**

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.

Bolivia 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. In this regard, it has the Comprehensive Policy Council for the Elimination of Illicit Trafficking in Controlled Substances, Surplus Coca, and Prevention of Drug Consumption (CPI), which is the highest body for the adoption, monitoring, and evaluation of drug policies. It consists of the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of the Presidency; the Interior Ministry; the Ministry of Defense; the Ministry of Health and Sports; the Ministry of Education; and the Ministry of Rural Development and Lands.

It also has the Comprehensive Prevention, Treatment, Rehabilitation and Reintegration Network for people with addictions and their communities, which is a technical deliberative space for inter-institutional and multisectoral coordination for drug demand reduction. The Network comprises the National Health System (Ministry of Health), the National Education System – Plurinational Education System (Ministry of Education), and the National Citizen Security System (Interior Ministry), as well as any public or private for-profit or non-profit institution that develops comprehensive prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration actions for people with addictions and their communities.

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.

Bolivia has concrete multisectoral plans and programs to address the socioeconomic causes and consequences of the drug problem, which are based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development. In this regard, the General Economic and Social Development Plan (PGDES) guides the comprehensive long-term planning of the Plurinational State of Bolivia and establishes its political vision in harmony and balance with Mother Earth. The Economic and Social Development Plan (PEDES) is the instrument through which the vision of the PGDES is channeled. The Sectoral Plans for Comprehensive Development to Live Well (PSDI) are derived from the PDES. They are operational plans that permit the medium-term integration of the actions of the different sectors, which are formulated operationally by the ministries leading each sector, with the participation of their entities under their responsibility. The Multisectoral Comprehensive Development Plans (PMDI) are formulated as a complementary process to the PSDIs, and the ministries with cross-cutting responsibilities formulate the Strategic Ministerial

Plans (PEM) (Ministry of the Presidency, Ministry of Development Planning, and Ministry of Economy and Public Finances).

In the fight against drugs, the Strategy to Fight Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025, adopted through Multi-ministerial Resolution CPI 002/2021, has four fundamental components through which the fight against drugs is being comprehensively addressed: control of illicit trafficking of substances; control of the expansion of coca crops; design and implementation of the comprehensive drug use prevention policy in the areas of health, education, family, and community; and regionalization of the fight against drug trafficking and international coordination.

In terms of comprehensive development, Bolivia has the Comprehensive Development Strategy with Coca 2021-2025, whose strategic focus is to promote activities that improve the individual and community living conditions of coca growers in order to Live Well, through the implementation of a model of economic complementarity associated with coca cultivation. Based on the comprehensive development approach, it promotes a coordinated set of social and economic actions rooted in the promotion of people's dignity, solidarity, and subsidiarity to improve conditions for the full development of families and individuals, promoting the diversification of agricultural crops, technical assistance, the strengthening of education, health, and basic sanitation systems, and territorial coordination.

With respect to demand reduction, Bolivia also has a National Drug Demand Reduction Plan 2023-2025, adopted by Ministerial Resolution 0765, which aims to support the development of actions for the prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration of people with addictions, in the areas of health, education, family, and community.

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

Bolivia participates in international cooperation programs at the bilateral and multilateral levels to strengthen policies, programs, institutions, and their internal processes. Since 2018, Bolivia has been part of the global programs and projects: Airport Communication Project (AIRCOP), Container Control Programme (CCP), and Criminal network disruption global programme (CRIMJUST).

In addition, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), it has a project of Support for the Strategy to Fight Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025 - BOLAB6, which has six components: (i) Coca crop monitoring; (ii) Validation of information on destruction of seized/forfeited illegal drugs; (iii) Validation of coca cultivation rationalization/eradication (R/E) information; (iv) Support for the Plurinational State of Bolivia (EPB) in the implementation of the drug use prevention component and in the promotion of Live Well, as part of the National Drug Demand Reduction Plan; (v) Support for the EPB in the implementation of the treatment, rehabilitation, and reintegration

component of the National Drug Demand Reduction Plan, and (vi) Regional cooperation and technical legal assistance. The UNODC Country Program 2023-2027 also takes the drug problem into account. In addition, the Plurinational State of Bolivia signed a Financing Agreement with the European Union to support the Sectoral Policy in Support of the Strategy to Fight Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021 –2025.

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

Bolivia promotes comprehensive and cross-cutting public policies to reduce and prevent crime, violence, social exclusion, and corruption. In order to reduce and prevent crime, the Sectoral Plan for Comprehensive Development to Live Well: Citizen Security 2021-2025 has the following strategic lines of action: (i) Strengthening of the National Citizen Security System within the framework of institutional co-responsibility for citizen security, which seeks to consolidate the institutional and legal structure that guides the substantive actions of the actors that make up the National Citizen Security System, updating the legal framework based on current needs and strengthening the mechanisms of sectoral and territorial coordination and linkage; and (ii) Risk reduction and strengthening of protection measures against crime and violence; under the citizen security approach, the aim is to emphasize prevention as a mechanism to anticipate the occurrence of events, in order to prevent harm derived from crime and violence.

In addition, Law 2494 of 2003 created the National Citizen Security System, with the purpose of effectively and efficiently linking and coordinating the emerging policies, plans, projects, and programs of the public authorities and of all persons in the community, in the country and in the different departments, without any discrimination or exclusion, to ensure the free exercise of constitutional rights, guarantees, and freedoms, providing greater security to the population and ensuring a better quality of life for all residents and inhabitants of the national territory.

Law 264 of 2012 of the National Citizen Security System “For a Safe Life” seeks to guarantee citizen security, promoting peace and social tranquility in the public and private spheres, seeking a better quality of life in order to achieve “Living Well”, in coordination with the various levels of government.

With regard to the reduction and prevention of violence and social exclusion, Law 348 of 2013 to Guarantee Women a Life Free of Violence aims to establish mechanisms, measures, and comprehensive policies for the prevention, care, protection, and reparation of women in situations of violence, as well as the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators.

Similarly, Law 243 of 2012 against harassment and political violence against women seeks to establish mechanisms to prevent, address, and punish individual or collective acts of harassment and/or political violence against women, in order to guarantee the full exercise of their rights.

Law 045 of 2010 against Racism and All Forms of Discrimination states that it is the duty of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to formulate and adopt a public policy to prevent and combat racism and all forms of discrimination, with a gender and generational perspective, to be applied at all national, departmental, and municipal territorial levels.

With regard to the reduction and prevention of corruption, Law 004 of 2010, the “Marcelo Quiroga Santa Cruz” Law on Combating Corruption, Illicit Enrichment, and Investigating Fortunes, aims to end impunity for corrupt acts in order to effectively fight corruption and to recover and protect the State’s assets with the active participation of public and private entities and civil society.

Bolivia has also issued Supreme Decree 4872 of 2023, adopting the Plurinational Anti-Corruption Policy “Toward a New Digitalized and Transparent Public Governance,” as well as Law 1390 of 2021 on Strengthening the Fight against Corruption, which aims to reinforce the mechanisms and procedures established under Law 004 of 2010, the Criminal Code of 1997, and the Code of Criminal Procedure of 1999. These laws are designed to investigate, prosecute, and punish corrupt acts committed by public servants and former public servants in the performance of their duties, and by natural or legal persons and legal representatives of legal persons, public or private, national or foreign, that may jeopardize or have an impact on State resources, as well as to effectively recover the State’s affected assets through the competent judicial bodies.

Finally, the Bolivian Criminal Code and Law 548 of 2014, the Children’s Code, seek to reduce and prevent violence against children.

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

Bolivia implements measures that promote equal access to justice and due process, taking into account gender, age, community, and cultural context. The Constitution of the Plurinational State of Bolivia is based on the values of unity, equality, inclusion, dignity, freedom, solidarity, reciprocity, respect, complementarity, harmony, transparency, balance, equal opportunities, social and gender equity in participation, common welfare, responsibility, social justice, and the distribution and redistribution of social wealth and assets, in order to live well.

The country is a party to the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women. Law 348 also establishes comprehensive mechanisms, measures, and policies for the prevention, care, protection, and reparation of women in situations of violence, as well as the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators. This Law establishes that institutions of the four State bodies, as well as governors’ offices, mayors’ offices, and Indigenous authorities, within their powers and responsibilities, must:

- Adopt, implement, and supervise specialized care protocols for the reestablishment of the rights of women in situations of violence
- Create, strengthen, and support care and protection services for women in situations of violence
- Create and support specialized comprehensive re-education services for perpetrators, as well as other measures aimed at modifying their behavior
- Adopt concrete action measures and clear and specific responsibilities to preserve the lives, safety, and integrity of women
- Coordinate the instruments, policies, services, and related inter-institutional actions to prevent, address, punish, and eradicate violence against women

Law 1226, which amends Law 1173 on Abbreviated Criminal Procedures and Strengthening the Comprehensive Fight against Violence against Women and Children, also promotes equal access to justice and due process.

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

Bolivia implements measures that foster citizen participation in crime prevention, build community cohesion, increase public safety, and emphasize social inclusion. The regulations of the National Citizen Security System establish the Interministerial Commission for Citizen Security; the Sectoral Coordinating Council for Citizen Security; and the departmental, regional, municipal, and Indigenous rural citizen security councils. The institutions that make up the National Citizen Security System work together to protect individual and collective constitutional rights, freedoms, and guarantees in the area of citizen security.

In this regard, the country generates active and direct engagement with citizens through departmental, regional, and municipal summits to establish crime prevention actions for the citizen security system, taking into account the social and geographic reality of the country.

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.

Bolivia's law provides for alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses, through the Bolivian Criminal Code; the Code of Criminal Procedure Law 1970; Law 1173 of May 8, 2019, on Abbreviated Criminal Procedures and Strengthening the Comprehensive Fight against Violence against Women and Children; and Law 548, the Children's Code.

These measures respect human rights and consider the gender perspective in accordance with the relevant international instruments. In this regard, Bolivia has the "Protocol for Judicial Decision-Making with a Gender Perspective for the Constitutional Justice System," which aims to identify patterns of inequality in the decision-making process of its judges and to eradicate differential biases between women and men when exercising supervisory, normative, and jurisdictional control. In addition, the Institutional Policy on Gender Equality for the Judiciary of Bolivia seeks to ensure the mainstreaming of gender equality and nondiscrimination approaches in all actions, levels, and areas of the judiciary.

Likewise, Bolivia has Law 1008 – Law of the Regime of Coca and Controlled Substances, within which the only type of offense that provides for an alternative measure to incarceration, is the one established in Article 49, which punishes consumption and possession for consumption with admission to public or private institutions for treatment and rehabilitation.

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.

Bolivia develops mechanisms to monitor and evaluate alternative measures to incarceration for minor or non-violent drug-related offenses. The agency responsible for implementing the monitoring and evaluation mechanisms is the Ministry of Justice and Institutional Transparency.

These mechanisms do not involve academic and research institutions or civil society.

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

Bolivia promotes a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, and internal procedures for the implementation of alternatives to incarceration. In this regard, the promotional activities carried out include seminars, forums, and talks.

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.

Bolivia 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.

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

Bolivia 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, it is implementing component three of the Strategy to Fight Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025: “Design and implementation of a comprehensive drug use prevention policy in the areas of health, education, family, and community.” At the community/family level, the Drug Use Prevention Unit provides technical assistance to empower sub-national governments selected under established criteria in the development of local drug use prevention strategies, based on community participation and the creation of social networks with entities involved in the institutionalization of drug use prevention.

Similarly, in coordination with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), a workshop was launched in 2023 for facilitators from municipal governments to be trained in the Building Families program, a universal/selective prevention intervention designed for families with children between eight and 12 years of age, with the objective of improving parenting skills, children’s well-being, and family mental health. The program is designed for families living in particularly difficult environments (including those living in rural or underserved areas, displaced persons, refugees, those living in conflict/post-conflict situations). After being trained, these officials will replicate the training with families in their municipalities.

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.

Bolivia does not promote 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.

Bolivia promotes legal reforms in regard to proportional sentencing for minor drug-related offenses. In this regard, the draft amendment to the Criminal Code sponsored by the Ministry of Justice and Institutional Transparency has been introduced and is in the public comment process.

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.

Bolivia has the Bolivian Observatory for Citizen Security and the Fight against Drugs (OBSCD), which was created pursuant to Article 41 of Law 913, the Law to Combat Trafficking of Controlled Substances, and Supreme Decree 3249 of July 12, 2017.

The OBSCD is allocated financial and human resources to carry out its functions, which are financed by the General Treasury of the Nation (TGN). The breakdown of budget allocations is as follows:

- Line item 10 of the TGN assigns a budget of Bs 3,000,000.00 (Three million 00/100 bolivianos).
- Line item 11 of other revenues allocated by the Senior Management, Ministry of Interior, Bs 521,227.00 (Five hundred twenty-one thousand two hundred twenty-seven 00/100 bolivianos).

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.

Bolivia has not established or maintained working relationships with universities or specialized research centers, non-governmental organizations (NGO), or other academic research institutions.

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

Bolivia has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries. It relies on the Indicators System of the Andean Community and the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) 2022, in which the following indicators have been taken into account:

- Unlawful acts related to drugs or precursors subject to control
- Illicit cultivation of drugs subject to control not intended for personal use
- Illicit trafficking of drugs subject to control not intended for personal use
- Cultivation or production of illicit drugs subject to control intended for personal use
- Possession, purchase, or use of illicit drugs subject to control for personal use

Nevertheless, the country has not conducted studies on drug use applying the Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC) nor a national methodology harmonized con SIDUC.

Bolivia has used the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) standard indicators for information networks on drugs to gather, analyze, and report national information related to drugs.

The country has not carried out studies using methods that are not representative of the population and/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.

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

Means	Yes	No	Frequency
Meetings	X		Semi-annually
Document exchange	X		Semi--annually

The following actors 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 actors		X
International organizations of cooperation		X
Others: Ministry of Education	X	

The DIN publishes a periodic report.

Bolivia 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 OBSCD carries out training sessions with local stakeholders to enhance data collection and management.

The OBSCD convenes meetings and other workshops where the results of studies and other information gathering 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.

Bolivia 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 OBSCD does not promote or disseminate good practices or the exchange of successful research experiences 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.

Bolivia has not carried out or published demand reduction studies during 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.

Bolivia does not have a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, or available information on treatment outcomes.

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.

Bolivia 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.

Bolivia has not carried out 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 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.

Bolivia has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs. The Bolivian Observatory for Citizen Security and the Fight against Drugs (OBSCD), the Special Force to Fight Drug Trafficking (FELCN), and the General Directorate of Prisons (DGRP) participate in those mechanisms.

The OBSCD centralizes administrative records of the FELCN, and the DGRP in a database where it reviews them for consistency and validates the information to transform the data into statistical records.

Bolivia 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		2021
Number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production	X		2021
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		2022
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession, and trafficking		X	
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		2021
Chemical composition of seized drugs		X	
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)		X	

Supply reduction, trafficking, and related crimes			
Information	Available information		Year of most recent information
	Yes	No	
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering	X		2023
Number of persons convicted of money laundering		X	
Number of persons formally charged with trafficking in firearms, explosives, ammunition, and related materials		X	
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	

Bolivia does not carry out periodic studies or research on the illicit drug market.

The country does not carry out studies on the medical and scientific use and other legal uses 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.

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

The country conducts chemical characterizations and tests of purity for substances that may or may not be subject to international control.

Bolivia has mechanisms through which substances that have been identified as not being under international control can be placed under control. The operational units of the FELCN send samples of substances determined to be used illicitly to the National Department of the Scientific Technical Research Center in Toxicology and Controlled Substances (CITESC) for scientific analysis. Based on this research the operational units can provide reports, justify and request updating of the lists of controlled substances. These efforts are legally provided for under Law 913 and Supreme Decree 3434.

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 Bolivia, the General Directorate of Controlled Substances is responsible for analyzing chemical substances and their precursors, the State Agency for Medications and Health Technologies is responsible for analyzing narcotic and psychotropic substances, and the National Department of the CITESC is responsible for analyzing drugs and new psychoactive substances (NPS). They are part of the national drug information network (DIN).

The country implements the following periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors, and pharmaceutical products, including new psychoactive substances:

Implements or participates in the program	Type of Training	Targeted institutions	Year when training was last done
Implements	Training for comprehensively addressing the current synthetic drug and NPS problem in the Plurinational State of Bolivia - Project of Support from UNODC for the implementation of the Strategy to Fight Illicit Trafficking of Controlled Substances and Control the Expansion of Coca Crops 2021-2025 of the Plurinational State of Bolivia - BOLAB6	-General Directorate of the Special Force to Fight Drug Trafficking -General Directorate of Controlled Substances -State Agency for Medications and Health Technologies -Forensic Research Institute -Office of the Prosecutor for Controlled Substances -National Customs	2022

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.

Bolivia’s DIN relies on standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply.

The country does not implement or participate 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), Bolivia 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, Bolivia 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.

Bolivia did not carry out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies aimed at national institutions.

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

Bolivia 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. Through official notes, the conclusions of the MEM Evaluation Reports on Drug Policies were disseminated to national institutions for consideration and inclusion when preparing their annual plans.

It bears mentioning that based on the Evaluation Report on Drug Policies: Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support 2021, the Plurinational State of Bolivia has prepared its National Drug Demand Reduction Plan 2023-2025.

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

Bolivia has 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). Based on the Evaluation Report on Drug Policies: Measures of Prevention, Treatment, and Recovery Support 2021, new bilateral thematic agendas are in preparation for the Joint Anti-Drug Commissions to address in 2023.

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.

Bolivia does not develop and implement a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states, states outside the Western Hemisphere, or with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs.

The country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control through bilateral meetings of Joint Commissions where secure intelligence coordination focal points are established to ensure real-time, secure, and timely exchange of information.

At a multilateral level, Bolivia participates in the Airport Communication Programme (AIRCOP) and the Container Control Programme (CCP), which also have channels for secure information exchange. Furthermore, as of 2018 Bolivia hosts the Regional Antinarcotics Intelligence Center (CERIAN) through which there is an exchange of intelligence information regarding illicit drug trafficking and related crimes.

Bolivia promotes exchange with member states, states outside of the Western Hemisphere, as well as with relevant international and regional organizations, of best practices on training, specialization, and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing national drug policies and strategies. In this sense, Bolivia is currently coordinating at a bilateral level a meeting of the Joint Commission with the Kingdom of Spain. To this end, a thematic agenda has been drafted which includes the exchange of best practices, training, international legal cooperation, among other topics related to supply reduction, demand reduction, and integral/alternative development.

In the framework of regional programs, Bolivia also cooperates with Cooperation Program between Latin America, the Caribbean and the European Union on Drug Policies (COPOLAD). Furthermore, it works with the International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies (FIIAPP). And, in the framework of shared international responsibility, it has signed a Financing Agreement with the European Union for sectoral budget support.

Bolivia also participates in the AIRCOP, the CCP and the Criminal network disruption global programme (CRIMJUST).

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. In 2018, the Plurinational State of Bolivia established the Regional Antinarcotics Intelligence Center (CERIAN), to which Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, and Peru are observer countries, and through which high-value targets have been captured.

Bolivia is likewise a member of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), and it cooperates with the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (EUROPOL) for purposes of preventing and fighting international crime through the exchange of police information worldwide. In the framework of FIIAPP, regional coordination activities are also conducted in this regard.

In the country, there are bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries—specifically, with Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Paraguay, and Peru—focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to drug trafficking and related crimes.

At a bilateral level, eight meetings of the Joint Anti-Drug Commissions (with Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Paraguay, and Peru) took place during the evaluation period. Additionally, there were four technical operations on the border to counter illicit drug trafficking. In this framework, intelligence information was exchanged to dismantle criminal organizations devoted to this crime. Also, permanent law enforcement focal points were established.

The meetings of the Joint Anti-Drug Commissions take place annually. The exchange of intelligence information is done in real time and in an ongoing fashion through the focal points established among law enforcement.

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

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

The country has promoted information-sharing among and between OAS member states and international organizations (including regional ones). Information exchanges take place bilaterally through the Joint Anti-Drug Commissions and regionally through CERIAN, Aircop, CCP, and others.

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

Bolivia promotes the dissemination of good practices and the exchange of successful research experiences among and between member states and international organizations on drug

policies. Both bilaterally (meetings of Joint Commissions), as well as multilaterally (Commission on Narcotic Drugs, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime - UNODC, European Union, and others), Bolivia reports on compliance with the narcotics control conventions, as well as on implementation and outcomes of its drug policy. The policy is based on a nationwide anti-drug policy, social oversight of coca leaf production, sustainable integral development without conditions, and the regionalization of the fight against illicit drug trafficking, which guide operational actions aimed at dismantling criminal organizations, and not criminalizing social organizations that produce coca leaf.

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 Bolivia carry out cooperative activities at the regional and international levels to investigate and prosecute criminals for drug-related offenses. Bolivia is part of the Ibero-American Network of Anti-Drug Prosecutors (RFAI), which strengthens international legal cooperation in matters of drug trafficking, effectiveness of investigations, and information exchange on cases, best practices guides, and money laundering. International legal cooperation on drug trafficking between countries' offices of the prosecutor also takes place through Joint Commissions.

The country takes human rights into account when conducting these activities under the Constitutional Jurisdiction's Protocol for Prosecution with an Intersectional Gender Perspective. This Protocol's legal lines of actions are aimed at identifying patterns of inequality in justice operator's emerging decisions and at eradicating differential biases between women and men when exercising jurisdictional, regulatory, and legal protection oversight. Bolivia also has the Institutional Policy on Gender Equality for the Judicial Branch, the aim of which is to ensure mainstreaming of gender equality and non-discrimination in all actions, levels, and spheres of the Judicial Branch.

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.

Bolivia 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 offenders for drug-related crimes. The State Attorney General's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Relations coordinate directly and cooperate in processes of mutual legal assistance, extradition and in other cases. These two institutions participate in the Joint Commissions and establish direct communication with their counterparts bilaterally in order to ensure international legal cooperation on drug trafficking.

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.

Bolivia has not enacted or adopted during the evaluation period (2019-2023) legislation 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.

Bolivia 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		X
	Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air		
	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 with satisfaction that Bolivia 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 integrated with the budget of several institutions. Furthermore, CICAD notes that Bolivia 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, international cooperation and 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 Bolivia 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/or strategies, except for the country's scientific community/academia. CICAD notes that Bolivia has partially delegated responsibilities on drug issues to subnational/local governments to implement concrete actions related to drug policies and strategies, in coordination with the national drug authority, which has, 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. However, the national drug authority does not have coordinators, offices, or representatives in the subnational or local territories, as part of a decentralized operational and coordination structure at the local level to respond to the drug problem. Additionally, Bolivia 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 the country 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 Bolivia 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 Bolivia's

national drug policies and strategies take into account the human rights approach, the gender perspective, and the social inclusion approach. Additionally, CICAD notes that Bolivia has 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 with satisfaction that Bolivia 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. Moreover, CICAD observes that the country has concrete multisectoral plans and programs to address the causes and socioeconomic consequences of the drug problem based on the principles of human rights, public health, and development. Additionally, CICAD notes that Bolivia 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 Bolivia 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 Bolivia's 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. Additionally, CICAD observes that the country develops mechanisms to monitor and evaluate these measures, which do not involve academic and research institutions or civil society, and promotes a common understanding of national legal norms, regulations, and 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 that Bolivia 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. However, CICAD observes that the country disseminates best practices and 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 Bolivia does not promote legal sentencing for minor drug-related offenses in accordance with domestic law and does not have special courts for these offenses. However, 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 Bolivia has a National Drug Observatory (NDO), which was created through a legal basis and has been assigned financial and human resources to carry out its functions. However, CICAD observes that the country has not established and maintained working relationships with universities or specialized research centers, non-governmental organizations (NGO), or other academic research institutions, and has not carried out studies on the drug problem through them. On the other hand, CICAD notes that Bolivia has developed and adopted quantitative and qualitative methodologies and information-gathering mechanisms that allow for the comparison of data among countries but has not carried out studies on drug use applying the SIDUC methodology. However, it has used the CICAD standard indicators for drug information networks for the collection, analysis, and reporting of national drug related data and information. Nonetheless, Bolivia has not carried out studies that use 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. However, CICAD notes that the country's

observatory has a national drug information network (DIN), which interacts through meetings and document exchanges, and publishes a periodic report. On the other hand, Bolivia does not have an early warning system (EWS) to identify NPS or other emerging drug-related threats. Nevertheless, CICAD notes that the country's 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. However, CICAD observes that Bolivia has not established forums that allow drug researchers to present their findings to policymakers. Also, CICAD notes that the country's observatory does not promote and 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 with concern that Bolivia has not carried out or published demand reduction studies during the evaluation period (2019-2023). Additionally, CICAD observes that the country does not have a national system for the collection of data on the number of patients treated, diagnoses, clinical history, or available information on treatment outcomes. Moreover, CICAD notes that Bolivia has not carried out studies to evaluate treatment and prevention programs and interventions, nor has it carried out process or intermediate outcome evaluations or impact evaluations of these programs. Also, 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 Bolivia 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 on the medical and scientific uses or other legal use of narcotics or psychotropic substances, subject to the international control system. CICAD observes that Bolivia does not collect information for the development of studies on drug prices, purity or concentration, or chemical profile of drugs, but conducts chemical characterization or tests of purity for substances that may or may not be subject to international control. Moreover, the country has mechanisms through which substances that have been identified as not being under international control can be placed under control. CICAD notes that Bolivia 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). Also, the country implements periodic training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of these substances. CICAD observes that Bolivia's DIN relies on standardized indicators for the collection of data on drug supply, but the country does not implement or participate 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 that, for the eighth round of evaluation of the MEM, Bolivia 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. However, CICAD notes that Bolivia did not carry out periodic activities to promote and raise awareness of the MEM Drug Policy Evaluation Reports aimed at national institutions. Nevertheless, 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. Moreover, CICAD notes that Bolivia 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 Bolivia does not develop and implement a plan for the promotion and strengthening of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states or with states outside the Western Hemisphere, or with relevant international and regional organizations, and related initiatives and programs. However, the country has established secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. Moreover, Bolivia 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, Bolivia 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 the country has not promoted technology transfers among and between OAS member states and international (including regional) organizations, but it has promoted information sharing among them. Also, CICAD notes that Bolivia 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 of Bolivia 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. However, CICAD notes that Bolivia has not adopted or enacted, during the evaluation period (2019-2023), legislation or administrative measures to improve implementation of obligations set forth within international legal instruments related to the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality. On the other hand, CICAD observes that the country has ratified or acceded to the majority 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.



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