



COUNTRY FACT SHEET:

URUGUAY



COPOLAD provides comprehensive support to Uruguay in implementing its National Drug Strategy 2020-2025, which is aimed at minimising risks and reducing the harm caused by drugs with a public health and human rights approach. The programme accompanies Uruguay through technical

support for seven national actions, four regional initiatives, and through the country's participation in seven of the Programme's working groups. This accompaniment addresses the three main components of COPOLAD: strengthening of the national observatory (development of strategic evaluations and studies

to generate evidence), demand reduction (national plans to address problematic consumption and territorialisation projects in the field of care) and reduction of supply (confiscated assets repositories).



WE COLLABORATE WITH THE FOCAL POINTS

- **JND** – National Drug Board (body attached to the Ministry of the Interior) (governing body and counterpart)
- **AUCI** – Uruguayan Agency for International Cooperation
- **Delegation of the European Union to Uruguay**
- **Mission of Uruguay to the European Union**



COLLABORATING INSTITUTIONS

- **SND** – National Drug Secretariat
- **ODU** – Uruguayan Drug Observatory (dependent on the JND)
- **FGN** – Public Prosecutor's Office
- **SENACLAFT** – National Secretariat for the Fight against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism
- **FBD** – Confiscated Property Fund (dependent on the JND)
- **DIPN** – Investigations Department of the National Police of Uruguay
- **MIDES** – Ministry of Social Development
- **Canelones Municipality**

National Initiatives supported by COPOLAD



STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORIES

PILOT EXERCISE TO EVALUATE HEALTH, CRIMINALISATION AND MARKET REGULATION STRATEGIES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE SDGs

The evaluation exercise is expected to be carried out with the help of the *Evaluative Analysis Guide for drug policies from a Gender and Human Rights Perspective and Sustainable Development Goals*, prepared by the programme. Uruguay intends to use the evaluation findings for the review of cannabis policy in 2024.

DESIGN OF THE SECOND EVALUATION OF THE CANNABIS MARKET REGULATION LAW

With the support of the European Drugs Agency (EUDA), a technical dialogue on cannabis policies is being promoted with authorities, security forces, private companies and NGOs. In this context, a roadmap has been agreed to assist the Uruguayan Drug Observatory to advise on the conceptual and methodological design of the second evaluation of Law 19.172 on the Regulation of the Cannabis Market.

DESIGN OF A WASTE WATER STUDY PROTOCOL

Development of a protocol for conducting waste water studies to detect cannabis, cocaine, synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances, detailing requirements and methodologies for its implementation.

Technical support will also be provided to conduct an internet survey on a specific population using advanced techniques that allow for inferences validated with non-probabilistic samples.



REDUCING THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS

PREPARATION OF THE NATIONAL PLAN TO ADDRESS PROBLEMATIC DRUG USE IN THE FIELD OF CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT

The aim is to strengthen the intervention strategy for problematic drug use in the criminal justice system. The focus will be on inter-institutional prison and post-prison work, which will allow for adequate monitoring of the target population, strengthening the multidisciplinary nature of the care teams and providing technological tools for the registration and monitoring of persons deprived of liberty who participate in the programme.

TERRITORIALISATION PROJECT IN CANELONES TO HELP HOMELESS PEOPLE

The JND has identified a pilot experience in the day care centre for women and homeless people in the community of Las Piedras (Canelones), within the framework of the programme entitled *La Otra Esquina (The Other Corner)*. The pilot scheme is aimed at building a bridge between this programme (which has been working in the territory for years) and the *Unidad Móvil de Atención (Mobile Care Unit)* programme (under the authority of MIDES), so that they can be coordinated in a single action, generating synergies between both.



THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ORGANISED CRIME

STRENGTHENING THE CONFISCATED PROPERTY FUND TO MAKE ITS USE MORE EFFICIENT IN FAVOUR OF URUGUAYAN SOCIETY

Technical assistance is provided to the National Drug Board (JND) to strengthen the management procedures of the Confiscated Assets Fund, created by law in

2006. It is planned to generate a document of technical recommendations.



PROPORTIONAL PUNISHMENT AND PENALTIES OTHER THAN PRISON

SOCIAL INNOVATION LABORATORY ON WOMEN IN SITUATIONS OF VULNERABILITY LINKED TO THE PRODUCTION CHAIN AND MICRO-TRAFFICKING

The JND is supported in promoting a space for experimentation on Alternative Development in an urban context. The focus is on women in vulnerable situations with minors in their care and linked to the drug production

and micro-trafficking chain. The laboratory is in the initial phase of listening and identifying prototypes from the perspective of alternative penal treatment or care, among other lines of experimentation.

Regional Initiatives in which Uruguay participates

REDUCING THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS:

Uruguay is participating in the development of a positioning document on stigma and gender perspective in policies, actions and strategies for the comprehensive care and treatment of women and other vulnerable groups who use drugs.

IBERO-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PUBLIC PROSECUTOR'S OFFICES [AIAMP]:

'The gender dimension in the relationship between drug trafficking and human trafficking' and "Improving special investigation techniques for drug trafficking cases". Public Prosecutor's Office (FGN).

CONFERENCE OF MINISTRIES OF JUSTICE OF THE IBERO-AMERICAN COUNTRIES - COMJIB:

'Regional agreement for a criminal drug policy based on proportional punishment and penalties other than prison'. Ministry of Education and Culture of Uruguay.

GAFILAT (the Latin American FATF) Strengthening the GAFILAT Asset Recovery Network (RRAG). SENACLAFT - National Secretariat for the Fight against Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism

Uruguay's Participation in Working Groups

Strengthening of the National Drug Observatories (NDOs) / **28 countries.**

Programmes and services for addiction care and social inclusion / **26 countries.**

Addressing drug-related vulnerabilities at the territorial level / **21 countries.**

Control of chemical precursors for the manufacture of illicit drugs / **17 countries.**

Proportional punishment and penalties other than prison / **22 countries.**

Alternative Development / **17 countries.**

Special investigation techniques, new technologies and inter-agency cooperation / **13 countries.**

Communication



NEWS

[URUGUAY STRENGTHENS ITS RESPONSE TO PROBLEMATIC DRUG USE IN PRISON](#)

[URUGUAY PROMOTES NATIONAL PLANS ON PROBLEMATIC DRUG USE AMONG PRISON INMATES](#)

[TECHNICAL DIALOGUE ON DRUG EVALUATION POLICIES IN URUGUAY](#)

[REPRESENTATIVES OF SENDA CHILE TRAVEL TO URUGUAY TO LEARN ABOUT COMMUNITY WORK EXPERIENCES ON DRUGS](#)

[COPOLAD III BEYOND THE DESK: WORKING VISIT TO ARGENTINA AND URUGUAY](#)



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VIDEOS

[QUALITY CARE AND SOCIAL INSERTION FOR PERSONS
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