



REGIONAL FACT SHEET: THE CARIBBEAN



COPOLAD III supports 12 Caribbean countries in the implementation of their national drugs policies, through technical support for 22 national actions and 3 regional initiatives.

The actions cover the main strategic pillars of the programme: the generation of evidence and strengthening of the **National Drug Observatories (NDO)** in 5 countries; the strengthening of the systems

for **reducing demand**, and the reinforcement of supply reduction policies.

At the regional level, COPOLAD III has consolidated its work with organisations such as the **Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF)** and the **Caribbean Community Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (CARICOM-IMPACS)**.

Furthermore, the programme has promoted the **development of a regional document for positioning the impact of the stigma on drug users**, with special emphasis on women and vulnerable populations.

In the area of political dialogue and bi-regional cooperation, COPOLAD III has played a **key role in supporting Caribbean countries within the EU-CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on drugs**.



WE COLLABORATE WITH THE FOCAL POINTS

- **Focal points in 12 countries.** Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Guyana, Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago.
- **Embassies of the Caribbean countries in the EU** in Brussels, with a key role in articulating the region's interests within the bi-regional political dialogue.
- **4 Delegations from the European Union.** Guyana, Jamaica, Barbados, Dominican Republic and Trinidad and Tobago.

Initiatives Supported by COPOLAD



STRENGTHENING OF DRUG OBSERVATORIES

JAMAICA, SURINAME, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:

STRENGTHENING OF THE NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEM

- Support for **Jamaica, Suriname, Dominican Republic and Trinidad and Tobago** in strengthening their National Drug Observatories (NDO) by improving the collection, analysis and dissemination of drug data.
- Preparation of mappings of human, financial and institutional resources for the configuration of a **national research network** in each country, led by the NDO.
- Formation of a **Scientific Committee on Drugs**, which advises each NDO on the quality of the studies.
- In Jamaica, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago, these developments are complemented by that of the **national drug agenda** in 2025, which will define the strategic priorities for evidence-based research.

CUBA:

CREATION OF THE NATIONAL DRUGS OBSERVATORY

- Support for the **Cuban National Drug Commission** in the creation of its **first National Drug Observatory (NDO)**.

This support included **inter-institutional technical advice** for its design and functions, training of technical teams

in data analysis methodologies, strengthening of national information and research networks, and promotion of the exchange of experiences with Latin America and Europe.

It is worth highlighting the training programme for the creation of an Early Warning system.

SURINAME:

INCORPORATION OF THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN DRUGS RESEARCH

- In **Suriname**, support for the adaptation of a questionnaire for research into drug use for the LGBTIQ+ population.

JAMAICA

LAUNCH OF THE EARLY WARNING SYSTEM ON DRUGS

- Support from COPOLAD III and the European Union Drugs Agency (EUDA) in the **Launch of the Early Warning System on Drugs (EWS)** in **Jamaica** by training local experts on new psychoactive substances and consumption practices.

Knowledge exchange has been encouraged with the European EWS model and an inter-institutional coordination protocol has been developed to ensure its long-term sustainability.



REDUCING THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS

COPOLAD III SUPPORTS PROJECTS FOR TERRITORIALISATION OF DRUG POLICIES
IN 6 CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.

BAHAMAS:

COMMUNITY TREATMENT FOR THE MIGRANT POPULATION IN ABACO AND FOX HILL

- Support for the National Drug Council of **Bahamas** to boost a **Territorialisation strategy in the Abaco Islands and in the Fox Hill community** (New Providence).

We have worked in partnership with local governments and civil society to serve the Haitian migrant population, particularly exposed to drug use, micro-trafficking and human trafficking.

BELIZE:

COMMUNITY TREATMENT FOR THE MIGRANT POPULATION IN DANDRIGA

- Support for the **National Drug Abuse Control Council** of Belize to promote a community treatment project in Dangriga, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Police and humanitarian NGOs (Red Cross, Helpage).

The goal is to **improve care for problems of alcoholism, drugs and homelessness among the most vulnerable migrant population**, particularly the Garifuna community.

JAMAICA

COMMUNITY TREATMENT IN FALMOUTH AND TEK IT TO DEM PROGRAMME UPDATE

- COPOLAD III supports the updating and expansion of the **Tek it to Dem** programme to strengthen work with young people at risk of social exclusion, by promoting harm reduction and homelessness prevention strategies through the strengthening of community networks.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

COMMUNITY TREATMENT PROJECT FOR IMPRISONED WOMEN

- Support for **Bani Women's Correction and Rehabilitation Centre** in the implementation of the Wings of Transformation Programme, aimed at women in custody. This initiative seeks to consolidate a Social Integration and Welfare Programme for this population, promoting its **access to health services, training and job reintegration**.

SURINAME:

COMMUNITY TREATMENT IN HAZARD PRISON

- The National Anti-Drugs Council of Suriname, with the support of COPOLAD III, is developing a **rehabilitation strategy in the Hazard prison (Nickerie)**. The pilot scheme includes **Intervention Guidelines** which seek to structure existing resources in education, leisure and social security, incorporating new strategies in housing and greater links with community networks.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:

COMMUNITY TREATMENT FOR MIGRANT POPULATION IN PRISON

- Support to the National Council on Drugs of Trinidad and Tobago in promoting a project of **community treatment in Penal**. The initiative supports the Ministry of Health's Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention Programme (NADAPP).



REDUCING THE DEMAND FOR DRUGS

COPOLAD III SUPPORTS THE PREPARATION OF A POSITION DOCUMENT IN 6 COUNTRIES ON STIGMATISATION WITH A VISIBLE IMPACT ON PEOPLE WHO USE DRUGS, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON WOMEN.

BARBADOS, BELIZE, DOMINICA, JAMAICA, SURINAME AND TRINIDAD & TOBAGO: POSITION PAPER ON STIGMA AND DRUGS

- COPOLAD III supports in the drawing up of a positioning document on stigma and drugs in the Caribbean, to serve as a reference for policies, strategies and actions that reduce stigmatisation and promote equitable access to care services.



COMPREHENSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT (CSAD)

SAINT VINCENT & THE GRENADINES: EXCHANGE OF INNOVATIVE EXPERIENCES IN THE CULTIVATION AND INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION OF MEDICINAL CANNABIS

The Cannabis Medicinal Authority (CMA) has participated in various forums and exchanges of experiences on Alternative Development (DAIS).





THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUG TRAFFICKING AND ORGANISED CRIME:

TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS IN THE REGION SUCH AS GFAFIC AND CARICOM IMPACS, WHICH IN TURN IS TRANSFERRED TO 15 CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES.

THE CARIBBEAN FINANCIAL ACTION TASK FORCE – CFATF: STRENGTHENING TECHNICAL CAPACITIES IN FINANCIAL INVESTIGATION AND MONEY LAUNDERING

In collaboration with the Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (GAFIC) a training course has been conducted on new money laundering risks arising from the use of virtual assets, such as cryptocurrencies.

A technical guide on financial investigations and analysis of emerging risks of money laundering has also been drawn up.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY FOR CRIME AND SECURITY – CARICOM IMPACS: STRENGTHENING THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS TRAFFICKING AND ORGANISED CRIME:

COPOLAD III has promoted cooperation between CARICOM IMPACS and the main European crime and security agencies. Within this framework, three training courses have been held:

- Course on strategies against drugs trafficking and organised crime.
- Course on regulation and control of new psychoactive and synthetic substances.

As a result of both courses, in 2025, two reference guides for Caribbean countries will be published based on these two training courses.

- Training in forensic laboratories for the analysis and detection of new psychoactive substances and other related substances.





CONTROL OF CHEMICAL PRECURSORS

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA AND THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

MODERNISATION OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE CONTROL OF CHEMICAL PRECURSORS FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF ILLEGAL DRUGS

- Technical support aimed at strengthening the control of chemical substances by updating national regulations related to precursors.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

MANUAL FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND FINAL DISPOSAL OF CHEMICAL PRECURSORS

- Technical support to develop a **diagnosis on precursor management**, analysing its regulatory, institutional and statistical framework.

This action has allowed us to develop a **technical manual for management and final disposal of chemical precursors**, aimed at key operators in the control of these substances.

SANTA LUCÍA:

PROTOCOL ON CHEMICAL PRECURSORS

- In the absence of a specific legislative framework on the matter, COPOLAD III provided support in Saint Lucia in **drawing up a national protocol for the control of chemical precursors**.

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA:

DEVELOPMENT OF A COMPUTER SOLUTION FOR CONTROLLING PRECURSOR TRANSACTIONS

- Antigua & Barbuda has received **support for designing a computer system for transaction analysis** involving controlled substances.



PROPORTIONALITY AND NON-CUSTODIAL PENALTIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC:

IMPLEMENTATION OF A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROTOCOL FOR YOUNG PEOPLE INVOLVED IN DRUG OFFENCES

- Support in the development of a **operating protocol for the implementation of a Comprehensive Restorative Justice Programme**, aimed at young people involved in minor drug crimes, promoting processes of **rehabilitation and social reintegration**.

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO:

DESIGN OF AN ALTERNATIVE CRIMINAL POLICY BASED ON THE DETERRENT COMMISSION MODEL

- COPOLAD III gives **technical support to the country in the development of a regulatory proposal for a model of Deterrence Commissions**, based on the experience shared with Portugal, which allows minor drug offenders to be channelled towards rehabilitation and treatment mechanisms.

Communication



NEWS

[26 DRUG OBSERVATORIES \(NDO\) OF THE COUNTRIES OF LATIN AMERICA, CARIBBEAN AND EUROPE MEET IN LISBON](#)

[CANNABIS POLICY EVALUATION AND A NEW EARLY WARNING SYSTEM IN JAMAICA](#)

[COPOLAD III PROMOTES COMMUNITY SPACES FOR ATTENTION IN THE CARIBBEAN](#)

[CUBA BEGINS THE PROCESS OF CREATING ITS NATIONAL DRUG OBSERVATORY](#)

[THE CARIBBEAN STRENGTHENS RESEARCH ON CRYPTOCURRENCIES](#)

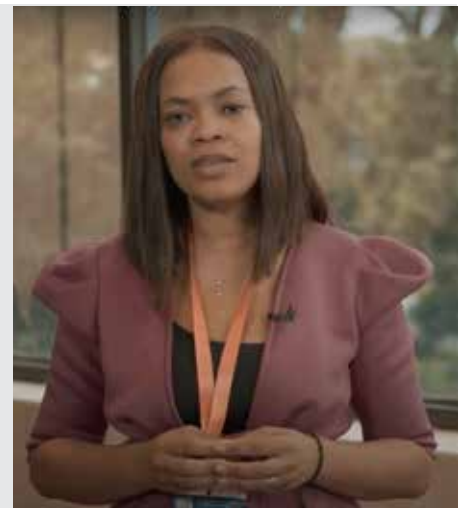


VIDEOS

[JUDGE KENYA ROMERO OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ON THE PROPORTIONALITY OF PENALTIES IN DRUG TRAFFICKING](#)

["FOLLOW THE MONEY" SEMINAR IN SANTO DOMINGO](#)

[VOICES FROM THE 2ND INTRAREGIONAL DIALOGUE FORUM ON ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT: JERROL THOMPSON](#)



COPOLAD III is a consortium consisting of:



Collaborating partners:

