

STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION: GRENADA DRUG INFORMATION NETWORK (GREN DIN)

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GREN DIN is the National Observatory on Drugs in Grenada. It is the mechanism through which Grenada coordinates the collection and dissemination of data information from all institutions involved in the area of drug control, and other relevant data. It was established by Cabinet in December 2002.

Background

The Drug Abuse Epidemiological and Surveillance System Project (DAESSP) was approved in 1999 under the 8th European Development Fund (EDF) Caribbean Regional Indicative Programme (CRIP). The specific purpose of the project is to establish a sound database and "early warning" surveillance system to assist national and regional policy makers in demand reduction. As such a regional surveillance network – Caribbean Drug Information Network (CARIDIN) was established with a series of sustainable activities to inform this network.

The Caribbean Epidemiological Centre (CAREC/PAHO/WHO) was the implementing agency for the project. The United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) and the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD), of the Organization of American States (OAS), provided technical assistance.

In-Country Team

Under the DAESSP, an In-Country Team was established by Cabinet in 2001 to coordinate implementation of activities under the project in Grenada. The In-Country Team was headed by Mr. Terence Walters, Officer, Drug Control Secretariat. The Team consisted of five (5) Officers from the Drug Control Secretariat, Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Finance.

Network To Improve Recording, Exchange And Comparability Of Data Between Agencies

One of the assignments of the In-Country Team was to conduct a series of mini-consultations with institutions involved in the collection of drug-related statistics; (Royal Grenada Police Force, Customs and Excise Department, Her Majesty's Prisons and the Ministry of Health), in August and September 2002. This assignment was undertaken through the project, "Network To Improve Recording, Exchange And Comparability Of Data Between Agencies, which was a component of the DAESSP. Several decisions were adopted to improve data collection and dissemination.

On 11 December 2002, the workshop, "**Network To Improve Recording, Exchange And Comparability Of Data Between Agencies**", was convened. The establishment of the Grenada Drug Information Network (GREN DIN), which would facilitate the collection, and dissemination of data, was the primary outcome of this workshop.

The Grenada Drug Information Network (GREN DIN) would also provide a forum to promote the use of international standard indicators of drug abuse, as represented in regional and international reporting requirements.

Indicators

The drug-related data and other relevant information collected from the institutions is in response to eleven (11) Indicators which comprise the ***GRENDIN Statistical Report of Indicators***. This information is collected quarterly.

MINISTRIES /DEPARTMENTS & INDICATORS FOR WHICH THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLETION

INSTITUTION	INDICATOR
Criminal Records Office, Royal Grenada Police Force	Seizures, Arrests, Court Cases
Customs and Excise Department, Ministry of Finance	Seizures
Her Majesty's Prisons	Imprisonments
Carlton House, Ministry of Health	Admissions
Medical Records Office, General Hospital	Admissions
Rathdune Psychiatric Unit, General Hospital	Admissions
Pharmacy Unit, Ministry of Health	Scope Of The Mechanisms For The Control Of The Diversion Of Pharmaceutical Products
Financial Intelligence Unit, Royal Grenada Police Force	Financial Crimes
Criminal Investigation Department, Royal Grenada Police Force	Criminal Deportees
Epidemiology Unit, Ministry of Health	Drug-Related Mortality
Royal Grenada Police Force	Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives, Other Related Materials

***Drug Control Secretariat
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