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# MULTILATERAL EVALUATION MECHANISM (MEM)

INTER-AMERICAN DRUG ABUSE CONTROL COMMISSION (CICAD)

SECRETARIAT FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL SECURITY (SMS)

# Saint Vincent and the Grenadines

Evaluation Report on Drug Policies

**2019**



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# SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

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# PREFACE

The Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM), under the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD) of the Secretariat for Multidimensional Security (SMS), measures the progress achieved and challenges to member nations of the Organization of American States (OAS) in implementing the CICAD Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020. Mandated by the 1998 Summit of the Americas held in Santiago, Chile, the MEM is the only multilateral tool of its kind in the world.

MEM evaluations are based on information provided by OAS member states, which is then analyzed by the MEM's Governmental Expert Group (GEG), composed of experts from OAS countries. For this round, the GEG performed its work from mid-2018 to mid-2019. The evaluation process was transparent and inclusive in nature, with no experts involved in the evaluation of their own country.

The GEG analyzed the following areas: institutional strengthening, demand reduction, supply reduction, control measures, and international cooperation, and its evaluation is based on the 29 objectives and corresponding priority actions of the CICAD Hemispheric Plan of Action on Drugs 2016-2020. (A few priority actions were not considered, given they are not measurable.) In addition, the seventh round reports include a discussion of member states' progress over time during the seven MEM rounds.

Prior to the GEG's work, the MEM Inter-Governmental Working Group, also composed of representatives from OAS member states, designed the seventh evaluation round instrument during 2017, and the resulting questionnaire was then completed by member states.

The MEM reports focus on key themes important not only to CICAD but to the OAS as a whole, such as human rights, gender, age, culture and social inclusion. The reports also take into account the recommendations of the outcome document of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) and the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

We hope the MEM reports serve as a useful diagnostic tool to improve drug policies and strategies, both at a national and regional level.

This report and all other MEM seventh round evaluation reports are available at <http://www.cicad.oas.org>



# 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 AND COMPETENCIES TO COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES IN THE STAGES OF FORMULATION, IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING, AND EVALUATION.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a Cabinet Note of 2017 outlining the establishment of a National Drug Council. In addition to the legal basis, there are directives for an advisory council and a secretariat to support the Drug Council, which is in correspondence to the Drug (Misuse of Drug) Act of 2008 and the Pharmacy Act of 2002.

## OBJECTIVE 2

FORMULATE, IMPLEMENT, EVALUATE AND UPDATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT WILL BE COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED, BASED ON EVIDENCE THAT INCLUDE A CROSS-CUTTING HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE, CONSISTENT WITH OBLIGATIONS OF PARTIES UNDER INTERNATIONAL LAW<sup>1</sup> WITH A FOCUS ON GENDER AND EMPHASIZING DEVELOPMENT WITH SOCIAL INCLUSION.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a national drug plan or strategy.

## OBJECTIVE 3

DESIGN AND COORDINATE NATIONAL DRUG POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES WITH OTHER PUBLIC POLICIES AND/OR STRATEGIES THAT ADDRESS FUNDAMENTAL CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE DRUG PROBLEM.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines includes issues such as trafficking in persons, social issues, healthcare, criminal justice, human services, legal aid and gender equality to address the socio-economic causes and consequences of the drug problem.

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<sup>1</sup> Full respect for international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, observing the principles of sovereignty and the territorial integrity of States, nonintervention in the internal affairs of States, fundamental liberties, inherent human dignity, and equal rights and mutual respect among States.

## OBJECTIVE 4

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN NATIONAL OBSERVATORIES ON DRUGS (OR SIMILAR TECHNICAL OFFICES) FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL DRUG INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND FOSTERING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN THIS AREA.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have a national observatory on drugs, and there is no national drug information network.

The country has not carried out demand reduction studies.

Demand reduction			
Studies	Studies carried out and published		Year of most recent study
	Yes	No	
Survey of secondary school students		X	
National household surveys (12-64 years)		X	
Patient register of treatment centers		X	
Cross-section survey of patients in treatment centers		X	
Survey of patients in emergency rooms		X	
Survey of higher education students		X	
Survey of populations in conflict with the law		X	
Studies on drug-related mortality		X	
Studies on drug-related morbidity		X	
Studies on gender conditions related to drug problems		X	

The following is information collected in the areas of 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		2017
Number of seizures of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production	X		2017
Quantities of illicit drugs and raw materials for their production seized	X		2017
Number of seizures of controlled chemical substances (precursors)		X	
Quantities of seized controlled chemical substances (precursors)		X	
Number of seizures of pharmaceutical products		X	
Quantities of seized pharmaceutical products		X	
Number of persons formally charged with drug use, possession and trafficking	X		2017
Number of persons convicted of drug use, possession and trafficking	X		2017
Number of laboratories producing illicit plant-based drugs detected and dismantled		X	
Number of laboratories producing illicit drugs of synthetic origin detected and dismantled		X	
Chemical composition of seized drugs		X	
Sale price of drugs (for consumers)	X		2017
Number of persons formally charged with money laundering		X	
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	

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has carried out studies to evaluate demand reduction programs, but none for supply reduction or control measures.



## OBJECTIVE 5

ENCOURAGE THE DESIGN, ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO INCARCERATION FOR LOW-LEVEL DRUG-RELATED OFFENSES, WHILE TAKING INTO ACCOUNT NATIONAL, CONSTITUTIONAL, LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE SYSTEMS AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH RELEVANT INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has the Criminal Code that provides for alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug offenses. Alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug-related offenses do not take into account gender differences in accordance with relevant international instruments.

The country has mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the impact of implementing alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug offenses.

## OBJECTIVE 6

PROMOTE AND IMPLEMENT, AS APPROPRIATE, COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LAWS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, ESPECIALLY FOR THOSE VULNERABLE POPULATIONS, WITH DIFFERENT LEVELS AND FORMS OF INVOLVEMENT.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has interinstitutional and multisectoral programs that promote the social integration of individuals affected by the drug problem. The Marion House Youth Assistance, “Right Step” and Young Parent Empowerment programs are three such initiatives.

## OBJECTIVE 7

FOSTER PROPORTIONATE SENTENCING, WHERE APPROPRIATE, THAT ADDRESSES THE SERIOUSNESS OF DRUG OFFENSES AND SAFEGUARDING LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have legislation on proportionate sentencing, in particular for low-level drug-related offenses. There also are no special courts or tribunals for low-level drug-related offenses.

## INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING

### Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD expresses its concern that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not had a national drug authority. However, in the seventh round (2014-2018), a Cabinet Note of 2017 outlines for the establishment of a National Drug Council.

CICAD notes with concern that throughout the seven rounds (1999 to 2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not had a national drug plan or strategy.

CICAD views with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014 to 2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has social policies that address the socioeconomic causes and effects of the drug problem.

CICAD observes that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not had a centralized technical office or observatory on drugs, also there has been no drug information network. CICAD notes with satisfaction that in the fifth to seventh rounds (2007-2018), the country has had indicators and information on supply reduction trafficking and related crimes. In the seventh round (2014 -2018), no drug demand reduction studies are carried out. CICAD also observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has carried out studies to evaluate a demand reduction programs but none to evaluate supply reduction and control measures.

CICAD views with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has legislation that incorporates alternative measures to incarceration for low-level drug-related offenses, and mechanisms to monitor and evaluate alternative measures.

CICAD notes that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has interinstitutional and multisectoral programs that promote social integration of individuals affected by the drug problem.

CICAD observes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have laws for proportionate sentencing for low-level drug-related offenses.

# DEMAND REDUCTION

## OBJECTIVE 1

ESTABLISH DEMAND REDUCTION POLICIES WITH A PUBLIC HEALTH FOCUS THAT ARE EVIDENCE-BASED, COMPREHENSIVE, MULTIDISCIPLINARY, MULTISECTORAL, AND RESPECTFUL OF HUMAN RIGHTS, CONSIDERING THE GUIDELINES AND/OR RECOMMENDATIONS OF SPECIALIZED INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has demand reduction policies that include programs in the areas of prevention, treatment, and social integration. These programs take into consideration human rights, intercultural, and age differences approaches, but not gender.

The country takes into account the guidelines and recommendations of specialized international organizations in establishing prevention, treatment, and social integration programs.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has carried out annual process evaluations of the drug abuse prevention programs “The Right Step” and the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE). However, the country has not conducted impact evaluations of drug abuse prevention programs.

The country implements coordination mechanisms to develop and implement demand reduction programs allowing for the participation of and coordination with civil society and other social stakeholders. There is a Drug/Substance Abuse Committee established by the Cabinet that constitutes representatives from specialized government agencies, civil society organizations, and the private sector that meet on a regular basis to discuss drug demand issues.

Measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse are implemented, using a technical guide, jointly published by the World Health Organization (WHO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

## OBJECTIVE 2

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN AN INTEGRATED SYSTEM OF UNIVERSAL, SELECTED AND INDICATED PREVENTION PROGRAMS ON DRUG USE, GIVING PRIORITY TO VULNERABLE AND AT-RISK POPULATIONS, EVIDENCE-BASED AND INCORPORATING A HUMAN RIGHTS, GENDER, AGE AND MULTICULTURAL APPROACH.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines implements prevention programs in the following populations:

Population group	Name of program	Type of program
<b>School children and university students</b>		
• Elementary/primary	Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE)	Universal
• Junior high & high school (secondary school)	DARE	Universal
• University/tertiary education	DARE	Universal
<b>Street Population</b>		
• Boys/girls	DARE	Universal
• Street youths	DARE	Universal
	Youth Assistance Programme (YAP)	Selective
• Adults	Right Step	Selective
	Young Parent Empowerment Programme (YPEP)	Universal
<b>Family</b>	Right Step	Selective
	YPEP	Universal
<b>Gender</b>		
• Women	Program for women	Universal
<b>LGBTI</b>	Program for LGBTI community	Universal
<b>Community</b>	DARE	Universal
	Right Step	Selective
<b>Incarcerated individuals</b>	Right Step	Selective
	Therapeutic Drug Program	Selective

However, the country does not implement prevention programs in pre-school, men, indigenous people, migrants and refugees, and individuals in the workplace populations.



### OBJECTIVE 3

ESTABLISH AND STRENGTHEN, AS APPROPRIATE, A NATIONAL TREATMENT, REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL INCLUSION SYSTEM FOR PEOPLE WITH PROBLEMATIC DRUG USE, INCLUDING A HUMAN RIGHTS AND GENDER-BASED APPROACH, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT INTERNATIONALLY ACCEPTED QUALITY STANDARDS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a national system for comprehensive treatment and social integration programs and devices for people with problematic drug use, guaranteeing non-discrimination. This national system includes specialized programs and devices in early intervention (brief intervention, counseling), crisis intervention, diverse treatment modalities, dual pathology (co-morbidity), social integration and other services related to recovery support. These programs and devices also take into account the International Standards for the Treatment of Drug Use Disorders of UNODC and WHO.

The country does not have mechanisms to facilitate access to and ensure the quality of treatment services for those with problematic drug use. Outpatient drug treatment services for persons with problematic drug use are provided by the public healthcare system, private institutions, religious institutions and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Residential drug treatment services are limited to services provided by the public healthcare system and private institutions. The Government's Mental Health Centre is the only residential facility offering treatment to people with problematic drug use in the country. There are no privately owned drug rehabilitation residential facilities. The private institutions are outpatient facilities. A gender perspective is included in the treatment services offered.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has established and maintained cooperative relationships between governmental and NGOs that provide social and community support services, with a gender perspective, for the social integration of vulnerable populations.

There are mechanisms to continually monitor and evaluate the results of care, treatment and social integration programs.

The country has supervisory mechanisms for establishments that offer treatment and rehabilitation services for those with problematic drug use.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has a mechanism that protects the rights of people with problematic drug use in treatment programs and services. Patient records are confidential and restricted to personnel who work directly with patients.

## OBJECTIVE 4

FOSTER ONGOING TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF HUMAN RESOURCES THAT PROVIDE PREVENTION, TREATMENT, REHABILITATION AND SOCIAL REINTEGRATION SERVICES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines offers ongoing competence-based training in the areas of prevention, treatment and social reintegration. There are trained officers in counseling, social work and psychology. The country participates in prevention, treatment, and social reintegration training programs offered by specialized international organizations, such as the Training and Certification Program for Drug and Violence Prevention, Treatment, and Rehabilitation (PROCCER) of the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission of the Organization of American States (CICAD/OAS). During the 2016 Third Annual Meeting of The International Society of Substance Use Professionals (ISSUP), the CICAD/OAS trained instructors from Saint Vincent and the Grenadines on treatment for adolescents with problematic drug use.

In an attempt to improve the competency level of staff who work in the area of drug prevention, treatment, and social reintegration services, the country provides basic level certification in all three areas. Both DARE America and the CICAD/OAS (through the University of West Indies) certify personnel in prevention services, while NGOs certifies personnel in treatment services, and the Government certifies personnel in social reintegration services.

## OBJECTIVE 5

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN GOVERNMENTAL INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES TO REGULATE, ENABLE, ACCREDIT AND SUPERVISE PREVENTION PROGRAMS AND, CARE AND TREATMENT SERVICES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has an accreditation process for treatment centers. The Ministry of Health Wellness and the Environment is the Government's authority on national drug-related issues and provides guidance for the management processes for drug treatment programs.

There are no supervisory mechanisms to ensure that the quality criteria of prevention services or the care or treatment services are met.

The country has not conducted an assessment to determine the national needs regarding care and treatment services offered.

## DEMAND REDUCTION

### Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD notes with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has demand reduction policies that include programs in the areas of prevention, treatment and social integration. These programs follow the guidelines of international organizations and incorporate human rights, intercultural and age differences approaches, but not gender. In addition, coordination mechanisms are implemented with various stakeholders. CICAD also observes that the country considers international guidelines in implementing measures aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse. Regarding the evaluation of programs, CICAD recognizes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines carries out process evaluations of the drug abuse prevention programs, but not impact evaluations.

CICAD is pleased to see that from the second to the seventh rounds (2001-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had prevention programs for primary and secondary school students and for incarcerated individuals. Additionally, in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has universal prevention programs for university-level students, street children and youths, women and the LGBTI population. However, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not made progress in developing prevention programs directed to the rest of the key populations.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that from the second to the seventh rounds (2001-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had a national system of comprehensive treatment and social integration programs and devices that offers all services, guaranteeing access without discrimination. During the seventh round (2014-2018), the country monitors and evaluates the programs of the health system of the penitentiary service that has components related to drug use. However, CICAD expresses concern that there are no mechanisms to monitor and evaluate the results of the care, treatment, and social integration programs and none to supervise the establishments that offer these services.

CICAD acknowledges the progress from the first to the fourth rounds (1999-2006) from only offering refresher courses in demand reduction to that of the seventh round (2014-2018), where Saint Vincent and the Grenadines offers continuous training, based on competencies, in the areas of prevention, treatment, and social integration. CICAD also notes with satisfaction that from the sixth to the seventh rounds (2013-2018), the country has been participating in training programs offered by specialized international organizations. Moreover, in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines certifies personnel working in the prevention, treatment and social reintegration services at a basic level.

CICAD takes note of the progress Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has made in the seventh round (2014-2018), in incorporating an accreditation process for treatment and rehabilitation centers. However, CICAD expresses its concern that the country does not have supervisory mechanisms to guarantee that the quality criteria for prevention and treatment services are met. Further, no assessment was made to determine the national needs for care and treatment services.

# SUPPLY REDUCTION

## OBJECTIVE 1

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT AND STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED POLICIES AND PROGRAMS, AIMED AT PREVENTING AND DECREASING THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS, IN ACCORDANCE TO THE TERRITORIAL REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY AND RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not design, implement or update national policies or programs to prevent and decrease illicit crops and the illicit production of drugs.

## OBJECTIVE 2

DEVELOP AND IMPLEMENT MECHANISMS TO COLLECT AND ANALYZE INFORMATION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF POLICIES AND ACTIONS AIMED AT DECREASING THE ILLICIT SUPPLY OF DRUGS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs. The Narcotic Unit, which primarily has information on seizures, arrests and convictions, is the institution that participates in these mechanisms.

The country neither carries out periodic studies or research on the structural and socioeconomic factors influencing the illicit supply of drugs situation, nor prepares or updates studies or research on medical and scientific uses and other legal use of crops containing narcotic or psychotropic substances subject to the international control system.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes and implements mechanisms to identify chemical profiles and characteristics of drugs subject to the international control system, following guidelines set out by International Narcotics Control Board (INCB). The country does not promote or implement mechanisms for the identification of new psychoactive substances (NPS).

Standardized and comparable methodologies are not used to measure illicit crops and drug production.

### OBJECTIVE 3

DESIGN, IMPLEMENT AND/OR STRENGTHEN LONG-TERM PROGRAMS WHICH ARE BROAD AND AIMED AT DEVELOPMENT THAT INCLUDES RURAL AND URBAN ALTERNATIVE, INTEGRAL AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND, AS APPROPRIATE, PREVENTIVE ALTERNATIVE DEVELOPMENT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES, LEGISLATIONS AND NEEDS OF EACH COUNTRY, AS APPROPRIATE.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not designed or implemented alternative, integral and sustainable development programs or preventive alternative development as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops.

The country promotes the following sustainable urban development initiatives in urban populations affected by illicit activities related to drug trafficking and related crimes:

Type of sustainable urban development initiative	Target populations
Crime prevention	School and Street Children
Community cohesion	Adults and low income households
Citizen security and protection	Everybody
Stimulate innovation and entrepreneurship	High School and College graduates
Promotion of employment	High School and College graduates "At risk", marginalized, vulnerable Youths & Parents

As a part of the Medical Cannabis Programme, the country has made a commitment to implement alternative development programs for the traditional farmers (persons who would have cultivated cannabis illegally).

### OBJECTIVE 4

DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT PLANS AND/OR PROGRAMS TO MITIGATE AND REDUCE THE IMPACT OF ILLICIT CROPS AND DRUG PRODUCTION ON THE ENVIRONMENT, WITH THE INCORPORATION AND PARTICIPATION OF LOCAL COMMUNITIES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL POLICIES OF MEMBER STATES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not carry out research or studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production, since no significant areas of illicit crops have been detected.



## **OBJECTIVE 5**

ESTABLISH, AS APPROPRIATE, AND BASED ON EVIDENCE THE EFFECTS CAUSED BY SMALL-SCALE DRUG TRAFFICKING ON PUBLIC HEALTH, THE ECONOMY, SOCIAL COHESION AND CITIZEN SECURITY.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have characterization methodologies with territorial and socio-economic approaches on micro-drug trafficking or small-scale drug trafficking and the effect on public health, the economy, social cohesion and citizen security.

The country does not exchange information on the effects of small-scale drug trafficking or micro-drug trafficking in the health, society, economy or security sectors.

## SUPPLY REDUCTION

### Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD takes into account that no significant areas of illicit crops have been detected in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, therefore they are not addressed in the design, implementation and strengthening of comprehensive policies, plans or strategies.

CICAD notes that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not design, implement or update national policies or programs to prevent and decrease illicit crops and the illicit production of drugs.

CICAD recognizes that during the seven rounds (1999-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has been carrying out eradications of illicit crops. Likewise, CICAD is pleased to see that during the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has mechanisms to collect and analyze information related to the illicit supply of drugs and promotes and implements mechanisms to identify chemical profiles and characteristics of drugs subject to the international control system. However, CICAD observes that the country does not promote or implement mechanisms for the identification of NPS. CICAD also notes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not carry out periodic studies or research on the structural and socioeconomic factors influencing the illicit supply of drugs situation. Furthermore, the country does not prepare or update studies or research on medical and scientific uses and other legal use of crops containing narcotics or psychotropic substances subject to the international control system.

CICAD is pleased that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines promotes sustainable urban development initiatives in urban populations affected by illicit activities related to drug trafficking and related crimes. However, CICAD notes that the country does not have alternative, integral and sustainable development programs or preventive alternative development as part of the strategies to control and reduce illicit crops.

CICAD recognizes that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not carry out research or studies to determine the characteristics and extent of the environmental impact caused by the illicit cultivation of crops and illicit drug production.

CICAD observes with concern that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have characterization methodologies with territorial and socioeconomic approaches on micro-drug trafficking or small-scale drug trafficking and the effect on public health, the economy, social cohesion and citizen security. The country also has not exchanged information on the effects of the aforementioned trafficking in the health, society, economy or security sectors.

# CONTROL MEASURES

## OBJECTIVE 1

ADOPT AND/OR STRENGTHEN COMPREHENSIVE AND BALANCED PROGRAMS AIMED AT PREVENTING AND REDUCING DRUG TRAFFICKING, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERRITORIAL REALITIES OF EACH COUNTRY AND RESPECTING HUMAN RIGHTS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have protocols or operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs.

The country carries out actions to detect and seize drugs, through monitoring, inspections or checkpoints through land, air and sea transportation routes.

The Drug (Prevention of Misuse) Act of 2009, the Drug Trafficking Act of 2009 and Constitutional legislation provide for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking. These laws include a human rights perspective.

The country participates in ongoing training programs linked to regulations, processes and procedures on drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as, specialized investigative techniques and intelligence for personnel involved in interdiction operations.

The Forensic Drug Laboratory is the agency responsible for analyzing chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceuticals, including new psychoactive substances (NPS). However, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not updated diagnoses and studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes.

The country has participated in ongoing precursor chemical diversion training programs for personnel involved in the analysis of chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceutical products, including NPS.

## OBJECTIVE 2

ADOPT AND/OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION OF CONTROLLED CHEMICAL SUBSTANCES TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES.

The National Drug Inspectorate of the Ministry of Health Wellness and the Environment in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines is the competent authority responsible for controlling domestic trade to prevent

diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities. This authority was established through the Precursor Chemical Act of 2003 and Pharmacy Act 2002.

The country does not have mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods, to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances.

There are analyses that are carried out that include the exchange of information through existing mechanisms of substances in the international field, their analogs and precursors, which pose a threat to public health.

The Precursor Chemical Act of 2003 includes all the control measures in paragraphs 8 and partially incorporates those of paragraph 9 of Article 12 of the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines uses the information system for the pre-export notifications of controlled chemical substances, PEN Online from the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

The country does not have training programs on the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances.

### OBJECTIVE 3

ADOPT AND/OR STRENGTHEN CONTROL MEASURES TO PREVENT DIVERSION TOWARDS ILLICIT ACTIVITIES OF PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS CONTAINING PRECURSOR SUBSTANCES OR THOSE CONTAINING NARCOTIC DRUGS AND/OR PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES, ENSURING THE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESS SOLELY FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances.

The country issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors of pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances for their control. In addition, inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances are carried out regularly.

The Drug (Prevention Misuse) Act of 2008 outlines the criminal, civil and administrative penalties for violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances.

## OBJECTIVE 4

ENSURE ADEQUATE AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY OF SUBSTANCES SUBJECT TO INTERNATIONAL CONTROL SOLELY FOR MEDICAL AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, PREVENTING THEIR DIVERSION.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has special processes for issuing import and export authorizations for substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes.

There are awareness-training activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes.

There is a regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. The medical and scientific communities in the country adopted the INCB regulations and administrative measures to improve access to these substances.

## OBJECTIVE 5

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGE OF NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES AND THE THREAT OF AMPHETAMINE STIMULANTS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have an early warning system (EWS) to identify and trace NPS, amphetamine-type stimulants and other substances subject to international control.

There are no regulatory frameworks to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of NPS and amphetamine-type stimulants.

The country does not have new special investigative techniques, updated equipment or technology acquired to detect and analyze NPS.

## OBJECTIVE 6

ESTABLISH, UPDATE AND STRENGTHEN, AS APPROPRIATE, THE LEGISLATIVE AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS TO COUNTER MONEY LAUNDERING DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has updated and strengthened the legislative and institutional frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking, through the Proceeds of Crime Act of 2013 (amended in 2017).

There are protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations.

The Proceeds of Crime Act of 2013 (amended in 2017) establishes the National Anti-Money Laundering Committee (NAMLC), as the mechanism allowing for inter-agency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering.

The Financial Intelligence Unit Act of 2001 (amended in 2007) established the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), as a statutory body operating under the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning. There also are mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) recommendations.

## OBJECTIVE 7

ESTABLISH AND/OR STRENGTHEN AGENCIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND DISPOSITION OF SEIZED AND/OR FORFEITED ASSETS IN CASES OF DRUG TRAFFICKING, MONEY LAUNDERING AND OTHER RELATED CRIMES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has the Proceeds of Crime Act of 2013 (amended in 2017), as well as other specific measures, in accordance with international conventions and treaties, to facilitate the seizure and forfeiture of assets, instruments, and products deriving from drug trafficking and other related crimes.

The FIU is the competent authority, responsible for the administration of seized and forfeited assets, as incorporated in the Financial Intelligence Unit Act of 2001 (amended in 2007) and the Proceeds of Crime Act of 2013 (amended in 2017).

The Proceeds of Crime Act of 2013 (amended in 2017) incorporates the regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the administration of seized and forfeited assets.

The country participates in national and international workshops hosted by national agencies and international organizations that are specialized in training programs for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

## OBJECTIVE 8

STRENGTHEN NATIONAL INFORMATION GATHERING SYSTEMS AND MECHANISMS FOR EXCHANGING INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION TO DETECT ROUTES AND METHODS USED BY CRIMINAL DRUG TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATIONS.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have national information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. Furthermore, there is no national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

## CONTROL MEASURES

### Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD notes with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines carries out actions to detect and seize drugs. The country also provides for the use of specialized investigation tools and techniques to prevent and reduce drug trafficking. Likewise, CICAD is pleased to see that there is an agency responsible for analyzing chemical substances, and that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines participates in ongoing training programs both linked to regulations, processes and procedures on drug trafficking and related crimes, as well as on the analysis of chemical substances, precursors and pharmaceutical products, including NPS. However, CICAD expresses its concern that the country does not have protocols or operating procedures to detect, investigate, and dismantle laboratories or facilities for the illicit processing or manufacture of drugs. There also are no updated diagnoses and studies to identify new trends and threats on drug trafficking and related crimes.

CICAD is pleased to note that from the second through the seventh round (2001-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had a competent authority responsible for controlling domestic trade to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances. CICAD also recognizes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country carries out analyses that include the exchange of information through existing mechanisms of substances in the international field, their analogs and precursors, which pose a threat to public health, and there is legislation to prevent diversion of controlled chemical substances towards illicit activities. Additionally, CICAD views with satisfaction that from the fifth through the seventh rounds (2007-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has used the INCB PEN Online information system. However, CICAD expresses its concern that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country does not have mechanisms to inform the industry and users in general of applicable controls and cooperation methods, to prevent the diversion of controlled chemical substances, and does not have training programs on the identification and handling of controlled chemical substances.

CICAD expresses its satisfaction that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has criminal, civil and administrative penalties for violations by individuals or corporations that handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances from the fourth through the seventh rounds (2005-2018). Also, CICAD recognizes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has an updated register of individuals and corporations handling pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances, and also issues licenses to manufacturers and distributors of pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances for their control. Furthermore, CICAD observes that inspections and audits of the establishments of individuals and corporations authorized to handle pharmaceutical products containing precursor substances, narcotics or psychotropic substances are carried out regularly.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that in the sixth and seventh rounds (2013-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has special processes for issuing import and export authorizations for substances subject to

international control for medical and scientific purposes. CICAD acknowledges that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has a regulatory framework to govern the acquisition of substances subject to international control for medical and scientific purposes. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines also participates in awareness training activities for competent national authorities and health professionals on the proper access to substances subject to international control solely for medical and scientific purposes.

CICAD notes with concern that during the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have an EWS to identify and trace NPS, amphetamine-type stimulants and other substances subject to international control. There also are no regulatory frameworks to identify and address the challenges posed by the onset of those substances. Moreover, CICAD views with concern that the country does not have new special investigative techniques, updated equipment and technology acquired to detect and analyze NPS.

CICAD notes with satisfaction that throughout the seven rounds (1999-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has updated and strengthened the legislative and institutional frameworks to counter money laundering derived from drug trafficking. CICAD notes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has protocols that enable the authorities to conduct financial and asset investigations parallel to drug trafficking investigations. Likewise, CICAD observes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has mechanisms allowing for interagency coordination and cooperation in the area of preventing and controlling money laundering. There also is a financial intelligence unit and mechanisms for analyzing money laundering risks, in accordance with FATF recommendations.

CICAD is pleased that from the third to the seventh rounds (2003-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had a competent authority responsible for the administration of seized and forfeited assets, as well as regulations to facilitate the accountability and transparency of the administration of seized and forfeited assets. Additionally, CICAD observes with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has legislation and specific measures, to facilitate the seizure and forfeiture of assets, instruments, and products deriving from drug trafficking and other related crimes. CICAD also recognizes that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines participates in specialized training programs for the administration and disposition of seized and forfeited assets.

CICAD expresses its concern that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines does not have national information gathering mechanisms to exchange intelligence information to detect routes and methods used by drug trafficking criminal organizations. There also is no national information system on drug trafficking and related crimes, including alerts on changing behaviors and modus operandi of criminal organizations.

# 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 AND RELATED CRIMES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines carries out activities of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states of the Organization of American States (OAS), third States and with relevant international organizations.

The country has not exchanged technologies with foreign counterparts on the systematization of regulation, studies, research, and bibliographic material produced by countries and international organizations. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. The country does not promote the exchange with foreign counterparts of best practices on training, specialization and professional development of the staff responsible for implementing national drug policies.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines participates in regional coordination activities to prevent crimes related to drug trafficking, such as, firearms trafficking, extortion, kidnapping, money laundering, corruption, among others. The country is a member of the Caribbean Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network (ARIN-CARIB), Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF), the Regional Security System (RSS) and its Asset Recovery Unit. Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has bilateral mechanisms for coordination and collaboration with other countries, focused on the dismantling of criminal groups linked to drug trafficking and related crimes.

## OBJECTIVE 2

STRENGTHEN THE MULTILATERAL COOPERATION AND COORDINATION MECHANISMS IN THE AREA OF FORFEITURE AND MANAGEMENT OF ASSETS DERIVED FROM DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines updated the Proceeds of Crime Act of 2013 (amended in 2017) allowing for effective cooperation mechanisms with other countries and relevant international organizations on forfeiture and management of assets derived from drug trafficking, money laundering and other related crimes. The CFATF evaluated the country in 2009.

The country has mechanisms and procedures enabling the competent authorities to undertake expeditious actions in response to mutual legal assistance requests on investigation and forfeiture of

assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. Saint Vincent and the Grenadine’s competent authorities have legal powers to exchange information on money laundering investigations, including identification and tracking of the instruments associated with this offense, through information exchange networks, such as, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the Regional Security System-Asset Recovery Unit (RSS-ARU), ARIN-CARIB and the Egmont Group, among others.

**OBJECTIVE 3** | **STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AS DEFINED IN THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL INSTRUMENTS RELATED TO THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM, WITH RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS.**

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not enacted or adopted legislation or administrative measures and actions, as appropriate, to improve implementation of obligations set forth within international legal instruments regarding the world drug problem, respecting human rights and gender equality.

The country is party to the following international legal instruments:

Conventions and protocols			Yes	No
<b>United Nations Conventions</b>	Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, 2000	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children	X	
		Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air	X	
		Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition	X	
	Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961		X	
	Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971		X	
	Convention against Corruption, 2003			X
<b>Inter-American Conventions</b>	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

## **OBJECTIVE 4**

PROMOTE COMMON UNDERSTANDING OF NATIONAL LEGAL NORMS, REGULATIONS, AND INTERNAL PROCEDURES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HEMISPHERIC JUDICIAL COOPERATION MECHANISMS AND MUTUAL LEGAL OR JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO DRUG TRAFFICKING AND RELATED CRIMES.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has bilateral international cooperation agreements for mutual legal or judicial assistance on the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. The Laws of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines also make provisions for such cooperation agreements. The country has laws or other legal provisions to provide mutual legal or judicial assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and related crimes. These provisions are contained in the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act of 1993 and the Financial Intelligence Unit Act of 2001 (amended in 2007).

The country has the Drugs (Prevention in Misuse) of 2008 that permit extradition for drug trafficking and related crimes. In addition, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has extradition agreements with the various countries and has laws or other legal provisions that permit extradition of nationals for drug trafficking and related crimes.

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### Drug Policy Evaluation throughout the MEM Process: 1999-2018

CICAD notes that since the first to the seventh rounds (1999-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had an entity that exchanged information on drug trafficking among national agencies and with other countries. Between the second and fourth rounds (2001-2006), the country exchanged information on firearms, ammunition, explosives and related materials. Furthermore, CICAD views with satisfaction that during the sixth and seventh rounds (2013-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had secure communication channels for the exchange of intelligence information on drug interdiction and control. CICAD also observes that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country carries out activities of technical assistance and horizontal cooperation among member states of the OAS, third States and with relevant international organizations.

CICAD recognizes that from the second to the seventh rounds (2001-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has been exchanging information related to money laundering with other countries. Moreover, CICAD notes with satisfaction that in the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has updated legislation allowing for effective cooperation mechanisms with other countries and international organizations on forfeiture and management of assets derived from drug trafficking, money laundering and other related crimes. In addition, there are mechanisms and procedures enabling the competent authorities in Saint Vincent and the Grenadines to undertake expeditious actions in response to mutual legal assistance requests on investigation and forfeiture of assets derived from drug trafficking and related crimes. Similarly, the competent authorities have legal powers to exchange information on money laundering investigations, including identification and tracking of the instruments associated with this offense, through information exchange networks.

CICAD notes that throughout the seven rounds (1999-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has enacted legislation on drug trafficking, chemical substances, pharmaceutical products, money laundering, corruption, firearms, ammunition, explosives and related materials. CICAD is also pleased to see that as of the seventh round (2014-2018), the country has ratified a number of drug-related international legal instruments. However, CICAD expresses concern that Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has not ratified the Convention on Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters of 1992 and the United Nations Convention against Corruption of 2003.

CICAD takes note that in the seventh round (2014-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has bilateral international cooperation agreements for mutual legal or judicial assistance on the control of drug trafficking and related crimes. CICAD also notes that the country has laws to provide mutual legal assistance to third party States in investigations, trials, and legal proceedings for drug trafficking and related crimes. As for extradition, CICAD views with satisfaction that from the third to the seventh rounds (2003-2018), Saint Vincent and the Grenadines has had laws on extradition including that of their nationals.

CICAD recognizes Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for the continued participation and commitment during the seventh evaluation round of the Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM). In accordance with its national situation, the country is encouraged to fully implement the Plan of Action (2016-2020) of CICAD's Hemispheric Drug Strategy (2010).



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