**Drug Abuse and Drug Dependence Treatment Situation**

**According to recent statistical data:**

- The total number of inhabitants reaches 5,891,199 (2008 estimates)
- The most populous city in Nicaragua is the capital city, Managua, with a population of 1.2 million (2005). As of 2005, over 4.4 million inhabitants live in the Pacific, Central and North regions, 2.7 in the Pacific region alone, while inhabitants in the Caribbean region only reach an estimated 700,000
- The highest rate of users can be found among young men and women, aged between 19 and 25 years, followed by the age group between 26 and 34.
- Cannabis users made 2.2 %, followed by 1% cocaine users, 0.5% Crack users and 0.5% for opioids users.

**Demand for treatment:**

- Nicaragua counts with 31 treatment centres that offer inpatients facilities for drug dependents and counselling.
- The highest number is concentrated in the Pacific region, leaving no centres to the Central and Caribbean region.
- 16 treatment centres are located in the capital city, Managua, 6 in nearby municipalities such as (Tipitapa, San Marcos - Carazo, Masatepe, La Concha - Masaya, y Nagarote – León) which represent 71% of treatment centres.
- 23% of treatment centres are geographically distributed along the Pacific shore, with 7 treatment centres for children in (Granada and Rivas at the south and Leon at the occident).
The North centre of the country has only 2 inpatients centres (CREA International in Estelí and one “Hogar Resurrección” in Matiguás, municipality of Matagalpa.

There are 6 treatment centres for outpatient’s treatment out of which 5 are located in Managua, being FSH Proyecto Hombre the principal.

All specific treatment centres for drug dependents are private, most of them are the result of former addict’s families. As well we find REMAR, Casa Alianza; DIANOVA and CREA Homes.

Access to institutions is very limited due to transportation and maintenance costs.

The Following drug treatment services are available in urban and rural areas:

- Provided by the Ministry of Health’s Mental Health National network.
- 20 hospitals (countrywide) including the National Psychiatric Hospital and 22 Health Centres.

**HIV/AIDS Situation**

- 930 HIV cases were reported in 2009. The regions of Managua and Antamana in South Atlantic register the highest incensement in AIDS cases.
- There are 3657 HIV cases out of which 87% are young men and women between 14 and 44 years old.
- Ministry of Health reports 220 new cases 85% of cases reported are the result of inappropriate sexual behaviour.

**Training of Trainers**

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Besides general practitioners and physicians there are also trained drug counsellors, social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists and outreach workers who can obtain special training on drug dependence treatment. Nurses for instance can enrol for annual courses that last at least 4 years. General practitioners and physicians can update their knowledge twice a year due to specific training programs.

**National Counterparts**

- National Anti-Drug Council (CNLCD)
- Institute against Alcohol and drug dependence (ICAD)
- Ministry of Health
- Hospitals and treatment centres
- Women Police Force
- Education Ministry
- National Police on Youth Affairs
- Rehabilitation Centres
Academic Institutions

- University of Managua (Project Hombre)
- Central American University (UCA)
- Autonomous National University Nicaragua - Managua (UNAM)

Treatment Centre Details

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UN System

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