The evolution of Alternative Development towards 2019 and beyond

Incorporating environmental protection, gender aspects and human rights

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About GPD PD

Cross-sectoral and interregional project implemented by GIZ on behalf of BMZ under the political auspices of the German Federal Drug Commissioner

International promotion of evidence-based development and public health-oriented approaches to drug policy

Implementation countries

Implementing partner organisations

Colombia
Myanmar
Thailand
The German Alternative Development Approach

Address the root causes of illicit drug crop cultivation

Reduce farmers’ dependency on the drug economy

Create legal alternatives to illicit markets

Focus on socio-economic development indicators to evaluate AD programmes

Foster broad coalitions to establish a long-term political commitment

Alternative Development
3 post-UNGA Expert Group Meetings on AD

117 government representatives from 33 Member States out of 189 participants
Implications of UNGASS 2016 for AD

Traditional approaches of AD have been confirmed by UNGASS, but a **broader mandate for development-oriented drug policies** was adopted.

§6 (d) UNGASS outcome document

“Encourage the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to contribute to the global follow-up and support the thematic review of progress on the **Sustainable Development Goals**, within its mandates, bearing in mind the integrated nature of the Goals as well as the interlinkages between them (…)”

By addressing the **root causes** of drug crop cultivation, AD directly contributes to the **SDGs** and vice versa.
Implications of UNGASS 2016 for AD
Environmental protection and AD

§7 (b) UNGASS outcome document

“(…) addressing the consequences of illicit crop cultivation and the manufacture and production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances on the environment (…)”

Appendix/A (11) 2013 United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

“Alternative development programmes should include measures to protect the environment at the local level, according to national and international law and policies (…)”
Environmental protection and AD

Illicit drug crop cultivation, particularly **MONOCULTURE**, often leads to **DEFORESTATION**, loss of biodiversity, erosion of soil and desertification.

Alternative Development (AD) encourages **SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL** and **AGROFORESTRY** systems, which contribute to **REDUCING CO₂** emissions and preserve biodiversity.

**COLOMBIA**

Over **1,300 HA OF AMAZON FOREST WERE SECURED** through sustainable agroforestry and protected through forest conservation agreements with local communities.

5 pilot projects in Colombia’s Amazon region (Putumayo, Caquetá, Meta and Guaviare), GIZ project Global Partnership on Drug Policies and Development (GPDPD) and REDD+ project (Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation), partly implemented by UNODC, 2015-2019, funded by BMZ.
Gender aspects and AD

§4 (g) UNGASS outcome document

“Mainstream a gender perspective into and ensure the involvement of women in all stages of the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of drug policies and programmes (…)”

Appendix/B (d) 2013 United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development

“To develop policies and programmes that take into account an evidence and science-based assessment of the potential impact of alternative development (…) on rural and socioeconomic development, including the gender dimension related thereto (…)”
Gender aspects and AD

Women in rural illicit drug crop cultivation areas often have **LITTLE INFLUENCE** on **DECISION-MAKING** and **RESOURCE DISTRIBUTION**. However, their participation is key for achieving sustainable livelihoods.

In their role as central caretakers of families, women are often more committed to providing food security and establishing legal income alternatives. Effective Alternative Development (AD) improves their **ACCESS TO ASSETS** such as income or land and **EMPOWERS** them in decision-making processes.

**BOLIVIA**
In one AD project, women producer organisations such as „Dulce y Vida“ or „Nueva Generación“ were successfully established. By 2017, women
- increased organisational **LEADERSHIP POSITIONS** by 13%
- constituted **43%** of training **PARTICIPANTS**

UNODC project “Sustainable agricultural development to reduce poverty through an environmentally sustainable and women empowering approach in Peru and Bolivia”, 2010-2017, funded by BMZ
Human Rights and AD

Art. 14.2 1988 UN Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances

“Each party shall take appropriate measures to prevent illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic or psychotropic substances (...). **The measures adopted shall respect fundamental human rights (...)**”

§4 (i) UNGASS outcome document

“Ensure that measures to prevent the illicit cultivation of and to eradicate plants containing narcotic and psychotropic substances **respect fundamental human rights (...)**”
Determining a human rights-based approach to AD

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Rethinking the Approach of Alternative Development

Principles and Standards of Rural Development in Drug Producing Areas

Joint TNI-GPDPD Workshop on Human Rights and Illicit Cultivation
Chiang Rai, Thailand, December 2017
Guidance on the way to 2019 and beyond

New EU Council Conclusions to be adopted by the European Council

“Towards a new understanding of alternative development and related development-centered drug policy interventions – Contributing to the implementation of UNGASS and the UN Sustainable development goals”
More information from GPDPD

GPDPD website (www.gpdpd.org)

GPDPD Twitter (@gpdpd_)
Thank you for your attention!