UNGASS 2016
Global Civil Society Survey
Preliminary Results and Report

SHEILA P. VAKHARIA PH.D., L.M.S.W.
LONG ISLAND UNIVERSITY
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, USA

LINDA NILSSON
WORLD FEDERATION AGAINST DRUGS
STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
Method: Survey Distribution

- Civil Society Survey was comprised of 25 multiple choice and open-ended questions about NGO respondents and priority areas for UNGASS
- Available in the following languages: English, French, Spanish, Persian, Vietnamese, Turkish, Arabic, Portuguese, Russian, Chinese, and Italian

Circulated via email, websites, and social media among the following networks:

- UNODC Civil Society Team, the Field Office network, Vienna NGO Committee on Drugs, New York NGO Committee on Drugs, and Civil Society Task Force
- Web-based survey remained active between April 21st and July 31st 2015
Method: Mixed Methods Analysis

• Output from survey site was first reviewed for duplicate log-on attempts, surveys with <80% of questions answered

• Mixed Methods Approach:
  • Quantitative data was tallied and tabulated
  • Qualitative data was coded and sorted in accordance with 5 Thematic Areas to be discussed at UNGASS 2016 as an attempt to organize such a large quantity of qualitative results
  • As recurring priorities and topic areas were identified, they were highlighted in the report and key respondent quotes were selected to highlight the diversity of opinions in each area
Languages and translations represented in report and CSTF recommendations can be seen here

Final Sample = 758 cases

Those which must still be translated and/or analyzed:
- SPANISH
- RUSSIAN
- FRENCH
- CHINESE
- ARABIC
Turkish surveys

Italian surveys

Vietnamese surveys
Quantitative Results: NGO Respondent Characteristics

NGO SITE
- Headquarters: 89%
- Branch: 11%

LEGAL STATUS
- Secular Civil Not-for-Profit: 66%
- Affiliate/Member of Religious Organization: 10%
- Welfare Institution: 8%
- Users or Ex-Users Organization: 2%
- Volunteer Organization: 2%
- Other: 12%
Quantitative Results:
NGO Drug-Related Areas of Interest
Qualitative Results:
Thematic Area: Drugs and Health

A. The need for evidence-based or evidence-informed drug prevention
B. The widespread adoption and availability of harm reduction
C. Funding concerns for treatment, prevention, and other services for people who use drugs
D. Universally available evidence-based and culturally-appropriate drug dependence treatment
E. The need for a health response to drug use
F. The need to address stigma, discrimination, and reintegration for drug user health and well-being
G. Access to controlled medicines
Qualitative Results:
Thematic Area: Drugs and Crime

A. Concerns about the unequal enforcement of policies and sentencing
B. The harms of trafficking and its associated violence and exploitation
C. An evaluation of whether the current system is cost-effective and making society safer
D. Allowing for greater policy experimentation by member states
Qualitative Results:
Thematic Area: Human rights, women, children, and communities

A. The elimination of the death penalty for drug offenses
B. Human rights violations
C. Drug-related issues which affect youth
D. Drug-related issues which affect women
E. Drug-related issues which affect other marginalized populations
Qualitative Results:
Thematic Area: New Challenges

A. New Psychoactive Substances
B. Diverse views on the Conventions
C. Diverse views on recent decriminalization and regulation trends
Qualitative Results:
Thematic Area: Drugs and Development

A. Addressing the human rights and concerns of producers and farmers within the context of alternative development programs

B. Presentation of successful and effective examples of alternative development programs
Qualitative Results: Other Issues and Concerns

A. Reduce barriers and increase civil society access to events
B. Meaningfully include other UN agencies in the UNGASS
C. Support inclusion and communication amongst NGOs and member states
Qualitative Results:
Concrete Outcomes and ‘Success’ defined

A. Harm reduction language
B. Use of data in decision-making
C. Re-evaluating indicators of policy success
D. The increased use of a health-based approach
E. Greater civil society involvement
F. Discussions and dialogue despite lack of consensus
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