

Brazil and the South Cone programme

Situation analysis

Brazil is a major gateway to world markets of illicit drugs produced in the Andean region, especially cocaine. Brazil's extensive borders with the drug-producing countries, as well as its vast river, air and road infrastructure system, offer numerous smuggling routes for drugs and precursors. Nevertheless, the Government has taken measures to significantly increase drug law enforcement in its border areas, working closely with neighbouring Governments. Brazil produces 7 of the 11 precursors under international control. Drug-related violence is a particularly serious national challenge which the Brazilian Government is addressing under a national security plan. Drug abuse is growing in Brazil, and there is strong local demand for crack cocaine and coca paste. Argentina and Chile are also used for trans-shipment of drugs, but to a much lesser extent. Their main problem is abuse, in particular the highest cocaine abuse rates in the region. There is also a growing trend in HIV/AIDS infections among intravenous drug users. The proportion of HIV/AIDS resulting from drug abuse is estimated to be 42 per cent of all cases in Argentina, 33 per cent in Uruguay and 10 per cent in Paraguay. In sharp contrast, the same proportion in Brazil has fallen from 26 to 12 per cent during the past six years as a result of the vigorous implementation of a nationwide HIV/AIDS prevention programme that has attracted worldwide attention.

Objectives

The objectives are as follows:

1. To support the Governments of Brazil in the implementation of effective policies in drug law enforcement and drug abuse prevention;
2. To support the Governments and relevant non-governmental organizations in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay in the implementation of subregional programmes aimed at developing sound drug abuse information systems, HIV/AIDS prevention policies and drug prevention in the workplace

Strategy

The UNDCP programme for Brazil and the South Cone countries was elaborated with the respective Governments, and is based on agreed priorities. In Brazil, the programme focuses on two thematic areas: strengthening law enforcement agencies; and HIV/AIDS prevention. Projects in Brazil receive 90 per cent of their funding directly from the Government of Brazil. When promoting intravenous HIV/AIDS prevention in other countries, UNDCP makes extensive use of best practices developed in Brazil in recent years under UNDCP projects.

The Brazilian law enforcement programme, costing \$23 million, was developed with the relevant law enforcement agencies and aims at strengthening the national security forces, including a national security information system and a precursor control system. Most of the activities under the law enforcement programme were scheduled to be completed by the end of the biennium 2002-2000 - 2001. However, because of institutional reforms and the adoption of the national security plan, the programme was revised and extended. Also, the 52 per cent devaluation of the Brazilian currency and the subsequent lower disbursement rate of dollar-denominated financial resources enabled the Government of Brazil and UNDCP to expand and extend the programme into the biennium 2002-2003. The nationwide HIV/AIDS prevention programme in Brazil may be subject to a new phase during the biennium 2002-2003. UNDCP will continue playing a coordinating role within the UNAIDS theme group regarding national HIV/AIDS prevention activities, to ensure that relevant drug-related mandates emanating from UNAIDS and from the General Assembly special session on HIV/AIDS are considered. Building on the success of a UNDCP-sponsored model project with the Federation of Private Companies in Rio Grande do Sul, a new project on prevention at the workplace is envisaged.

UNDCP will launch a new \$ 630 thousand project in support of the National Sanitary Surveillance Agency to strengthen national capacities for the control and inspection of licitly used substances under international control as defined by the international drug control conventions. The project is a direct response to recommendations made by the International Narcotics Control Board regarding the need to improve registration requirements and prescription regulations.

Regarding subregional cooperation to harmonize drug abuse information systems in the South Cone countries, UNDCP will co-fund a school survey and related expert group meetings in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. On the basis of the experience of the Brazilian national HIV/AIDS prevention programme, and under the UNAIDS theme group on HIV/AIDS in Brazil, a project was developed for Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay. The project brings together the Government and relevant non-governmental organizations and aims at promoting a common approach on HIV/AIDS prevention among participating countries. The subregional project will be co-funded by UNAIDS and implemented during the biennium 2002-2003. A project to prevent drug abuse in the workplace and the family in the above-mentioned countries will also be implemented.

UNDCP will continue participating in the finalization of UNDAF in the subregion.

The UNDCP programme in Brazil will be subject to all required programme and project monitoring and evaluation exercises. During the biennium 2002-2003, final evaluations are planned for the following projects in Brazil: drug abuse and AIDS prevention project; institutional strengthening of the National Police Academy; training for public security professionals; strengthening chemical precursor control; and the integrated national system for information on justice and public security.

In the case of projects in Brazil, and bearing in mind that the Government of Brazil contributes between 90 and 100 per cent of the required resources, negative macroeconomic conditions may affect project implementation.

Results

Outcome: modernized National Police Academy enabling Brazil to offer instruction to public security professionals as well as to officers of the Academy. Objectively verifiable indicators: number of instructors trained; number of police agents trained; volume and components of equipment installed; police curricula updated in accordance with international standards; quantity of seizures by type of drug.

Outcome: precursor control system in place in Brazil and operational nationwide. Objectively verifiable indicators: number of states of Brazil and decentralized units connected with the central computerized precursor control system; quantity of seizures by product; number of staff trained, by category, in registration and control of precursors.

Outcome: HIV/AIDS prevention and care activities available in all states of Brazil, as well as adequate research capacities developed. Objectively verifiable indicators: number of people in target groups (children and adolescents, drug users, prisoners, sex workers, truck drivers and prospectors) reached; number of people reached by treatment and care centres; number of research studies carried out; HIV/AIDS infection rate among drug users.

Outcome: primary, secondary and tertiary drug abuse prevention programmes at enterprises of the South Cone countries. Objectively verifiable indicator: Each of the South Cone countries will have one medium-sized enterprise (between 100 and 450 employees) equipped with the concept developed by UNDCP, ILO and WHO for the prevention of problems related to alcohol and drug abuse amongst workers and their families.

Outcome: consolidated subregional drug abuse information system under the memorandum of understanding signed by the South Cone States, including updated data from new research studies. Objectively verifiable indicators: school surveys carried out in the five States signatories to the memorandum of understanding; drug abuse prevalence data for students available.

Outcome: a common approach to HIV/AIDS prevention established among the four South Cone countries. Objectively verifiable indicators: baseline studies available for each country; drug abuse prevention and risk reduction strategies designed.

Budget and funding

An analysis of the likelihood of funding priority activities under the programme results in a biennial budget for 2002-2003 of \$26.7million. The table below provides a breakdown of that budget by thematic area, ongoing and pipeline activities and general- and special-purpose resources. Regarding activities in Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, assistance in the forthcoming biennium depends on funding becoming available. Should an additional \$1 million become available, then a national household survey on drug abuse prevalence could be co-funded in each of the States signatories to the memorandum of understanding on regional drug control cooperation (Argentina, Bolivia, Chile,

Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay). The subregional HIV/AIDS prevention proposal has been submitted to UNAIDS for funding. The latter amounts have not been included in the present budget estimate.

Brazil and the South Cone programme budget for 2002-2003
(Thousands of United States dollars)

<i>Thematic area</i>	<i>Activities</i>		<i>Resources</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Ongoing</i>	<i>Pipeline</i>	<i>General-purpose</i>	<i>Special-purpose</i>	
Policy support, legislation and advocacy	--	--	--	--	--
Prevention and reduction of drug abuse	15455.0	4250.0	--	19705.0	19705.0
Elimination of illicit crops	--	--	--	--	--
Suppression of illicit drug trafficking	7000.0	--	--	7000.0	7000.0
Total	22455.0	4250.0	--	26705.0	26705.0