



European Monitoring Centre  
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Project SUPMAP

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# Towards European Key Indicators on Drug Supply

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# Background and process I

**Drugs Action Plan 2009-2012:** *“to develop key-indicators for the collection of policy-relevant data on drug-related crime, illegal cultivation, drug markets and supply reduction interventions and to develop a strategy to collect them”*

## **1. EC-EMCDDA First European conference on drug supply indicators, Oct. 2010**

- ⇒ *establish a strategy for putting in place the information tools needed to improve the evidence base for understanding drug supply in Europe*
- ⇒ *forensic scientists, law enforcement, criminologists, data analysts, monitoring professionals, EU and international organisations*



# Background and process II

Three areas emerged:

***drug markets***

***drug related crime***

***drug supply reduction***

## **2. Follow-up in 2011: 3 working groups**

⇒ *strategy including a roadmap in each area for developing key indicators*

## **3. Consensus-building conference with EU Member States, Autumn 2012, Lisbon**



# Key indicators I

## Some guiding principles

Information providers must benefit from the information collected (agencies and individuals, member states and institutions)

Necessary and feasible – “need to know” vs. “nice to know”

Need for targeted research, models, local studies – to broaden the understanding of the topic

Considerable amount of data on drug supply already being collected – **build on what already exists**



# Key indicators II

## One key indicator (KI) per area

Each KI: ad-hoc composite of

1. Monitoring

*routine*

*periodical, ad-hoc*

2. Research

Quantitative and qualitative components

Flexible and dynamic

Triangulation and multi-indicator analysis



# Key issues

## Data

Most quantitative data from law enforcement – systematic but indirect reflection of markets; ‘consensual crime’

Law enforcement sources determine what data is available

Rare direct observations – qualitative, ad-hoc, narrow

## Analysis: interpretation issues

‘Dark figure’: how do data reflect markets/crime?

Law enforcement lens: data is biased, but how?

Non-law enforcement data is also biased (ad-hoc, local, difficult to generalise)



# Drug markets

**Supply side of drug markets:** all activities, actors, technologies and settings which contribute or allow to make drugs available to users in Europe.

## **Conceptual framework:**

Drug production: cultivation – manufacture

Drug distribution: import/export/transit – wholesale distribution – retail distribution







# Drug supply reduction

**Drug supply reduction: a broad, diverse and complex field where policy and criminal justice play a central role**

**Policing** – multi-faceted activity with range of organisations, actors, methods and practices

=> Drug squads, (Common) curricula on drugs

**Judiciary** – European arrest warrant, JITs, mutual legal assistance and rogatory letters

**European cooperation:** practical implementation and benefits

=> *Need for clear conceptual framework of supply reduction in order to better understand and monitor*

# Key indicators III

***Review of data and other information: usefulness; standardisation, extension, improvements; other information for interpretation***

## **Routine data sets**

drug law offences, drug seizures, drug prices, drug products

## **Potential routine**

precursors, origin of drugs, production facilities, adulterants, special investigation techniques, convictions, sentences

## **Ad-hoc**

market size, typology for drug supply reduction activities, periodical studies, research



# Key indicators IV

## Proposal for each KI, 2012

Conceptual framework

Methodological review

Proposal for a KI (routine monitoring, focused studies, research)

## Consensus building conference, 2012

Wide range of experts, from MS

Achieve consensus on 3 KI proposals

⇒ *Roadmap with short/medium/long-term objectives*



# Key indicators V

## Post 2012: development of KIs

Lengthy process

With the MS and relevant supra-national organisations

- Needs assessment and conceptualisation

- Review of existing approaches

- Building of consensus

- Development and testing of standard instruments

- Development of implementation guidelines

- Training to implement agreed standards



Thank you for listening

