

Third Annual Conference of the  
International Consortium for  
Drug Demand Reduction  
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Diego

Panel: The  
International  
Faces of ICUDDR:  
UTC/UPC in  
Paraguay



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Mbaeichapa?  
Arya iterei aime nendive  
koape.  
Agüje ndeve guará.



Good morning. I am happy and honored  
to be here and thankful to our host  
and all of you for being here and for  
doing what you do every day.

# About Paraguay .....

(2016)

**Population: 6,775,786 inhabitants.**

**Health coverage is 25.9%**

**With Internet access 22.5%**

**Has a mobile phone: 96.6%**

**Literacy rate = 94%**

**Tertiary University and non-university  
education (11.1%) 2012.**



## The problem of drug use in Paraguay- Fact: scarcity of systematic statistical data in the general population

| Drug                                     | M    | F    | TOTAL |
|--|------|------|-------|
| Alcohol                                  | 61.1 | 64.4 | 62.9  |
| Tobacco                                  | 35.9 | 30.7 | 33.0  |
| Tranquilizers, sedatives and depressants | 8.8  | 15.0 | 12.3  |
| Any illicit drug                         | 9.2  | 6.3  | 7.6   |
| Marijuana                                | 6.0  | 2.7  | 4.2   |
| Stimulants                               | 3.7  | 3.9  | 3.8   |
| Solvents or inhalants                    | 2.7  | 2.8  | 2.8   |
| Types of cocaine: cocaine Hcl            | 1.4  | 0.6  | 1.0   |
| Morphine                                 | 0.5  | 0.4  | 0.5   |
| Types of Cannabis: Hashish               | 0.6  | 0.3  | 0.4   |
| Other drugs                              | 0.4  | 0.4  | 0.4   |
| Opiates: Heroin                          | 0.5  | 0.2  | 0.3   |
| MDMA (Ecstasy)                           | 0.5  | 0.2  | 0.3   |
| Crack                                    | 0.5  | 0.2  | 0.3   |
| Opium                                    | 0.3  | 0.1  | 0.2   |

**2005 – 2006. National  
Survey of Students**

Source: Encuesta Nacional de Estudiantes (2005) Prevalencias del consumo de drogas. CICAD/OEA. (2006).

# Lifetime Prevalence of Substance Abuse among School Students (2014).

| Substance                                  | %    |      |       |
|--|------|------|-------|
|  | M    | F    | total |
| Alcohol                                    | 56,3 | 61,2 | 58,9  |
| Tobacco                                    | 24   | 21,4 | 22,6  |
| Tranquilizers without medical prescription | 5,1  | 6,9  | 6,1   |
| Marijuana                                  | 7,1  | 4,5  | 5,7   |
| Stimulants without medical prescription    | 2,2  | 2,4  | 2,3   |
| Cocaine                                    | 2,7  | 1,4  | 2     |
| Crack                                      | 0,4  | 0,3  | 1     |
| Ecstasy                                    | 1,2  | 0,9  | 1     |

*highest prevalence of substance use =*

**alcohol** among licit substances

among illicit substances is **marijuana**

**In the student population (2014)**

Type of drugs that often motivate  
the demand for treatment in  
treatment centers, in 2012  
(UNODC)

drug 1<sup>st</sup> drug used is **Crack** among  
the illicit  
**alcohol** among the licit.

highest prevalence  
(83.2%) of  
consumption is among  
people between 15  
and 39 years .

56% is under age 30  
according to Fondo de  
Población de las  
Naciones Unidas  
UNFPA

# Addiction Treatment Available in Paraguay

2005- Paraguayan Drug Observatory

| Type of service/assistance | N° |
|----------------------------|----|
| Treatment Centers          | 42 |
| Self help-Support groups   | 45 |
| Total institutions         | 87 |

Table N° 11. Treatment centers providing assistance to people with problems resulting from the consumption of alcohol and other drugs by number of beds available for detoxification. 2012

| Tipo de Centre/Site                                   | Beds available for detoxification |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Public (Ministry of Public Health and Municipalities) | 30                                |
| Private   | 76                                |
| Total   | 106                               |

# Public Sector, Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare

| Institution   | Resources   | Human resources   | Comments                    |
|---|---|---|-----------------------------|
| <b>Centro Nacional de Control de Adicciones (CNCA) Asunción</b> | 15 beds adults<br>15 beds children & adolescents<br>(Hospitalization 1 month for detoxification and Outpatient ambulatory)<br>✓ to open shortly:<br>Inpatient Unit III = 20 beds. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 11 psychiatrists</li> <li>▪ 13 psychologists</li> <li>▪ 1 pediatrician</li> <li>▪ 1 nutritionist</li> <li>▪ 1 General Physician</li> <li>▪ 3 dentists</li> </ul> | 200 consultations per month |

# Public Sector, Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare

| Institution  | Services   | Human resources   | Comments   |
|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Center of programmed Detoxification (Alto Paraná)</b>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Ambulatory services</li> <li>✓ In Project: Detoxification unit programmed w/ hospitalization</li> </ul> | 6 health professionals, volunteers from the Catholic Church, headquarters of the municipality       |  |
| <b>Comunidad Terapéutica Vida Sana (Encarnación) Therapeutic Community</b>         | <p>15 beds for adolescents, placement of long stay (9-12 months).</p> <p>Detoxification in CNCA + therapeutic community</p>                      | Resources of the Municipality of Encarnación  |  |
| <b>Therapeutic Communities “La Granja” and others Day Care communities (SENAD)</b> | Located in communities: - Villeta, San Antonio, Ypane, Caaguazu, Asuncion, “Chacarita” Neighborhood (Asunción)                                   | 2 professionals of the department of health   | La Granja is not offering services at this time. |
| <b>Red del Sistema de Salud pública Public Health System</b>                       |  | Mental Health Professionals. No specialized treatments services in hospitals or outpatient settings |  |

# Private Sector, Therapeutic Communities

| Institution                         | Characteristics             |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. PUAFE                            |                             |
| 2. REMAR                            |                             |
| 3. EL CAMINO                        |                             |
| 4. LA FAZENDA                       |                             |
| 5. PSYCHIATRIC CLINIC “LOS PILARES” | Not exclusive to drug users |



# The No's in Paraguay

- No instruments to monitor accreditation of treatment services and centers.
- No national mechanisms to verify compliance with the standards of care or quality of drug treatment services.
- No specialize
- No formalized system to monitor operations of drug treatment programs.
- No accreditation process for the drug treatment centers.

# Professionals working in treatment centers and support (Self-Help) groups (AA, NA) (2012)

| <b>Professions</b>               | <b>Private</b> | <b>Public</b> |
|----------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Coordinating staff               | 100            | 0             |
| Toxicologists                    | 100            | 0             |
| Therapeutic operators            | 95             | 5             |
| Occupational Therapists          | 81             | 19            |
| Nurses                           | 57             | 43            |
| Social Workers                   | 50             | 50            |
| Nutritionists                    | 50             | 50            |
| Doctors who work with infections | 50             | 50            |
| General Physicians               | 46             | 54            |
| Educators                        | 45             | 55            |
| Psychologists                    | 45             | 55            |
| Psychiatrists                    | 18             | 82            |

## Facts about Standards of Assistance, Protocols, Specialized Training

- Paraguay developed minimum standards of care for patients w/ problematic consumption of Alcohol and other drugs,

National Center for Addiction Control has *protocol of assistance and treatment*, not officially approved by the Superintendency of health.

Private establishments are not supervised by the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare.

Continuous training for staff working in the area of drug abuse treatment to staff of the National Center for Addiction Control.

Universities currently do not have systematic training programs on the subject, some universities, the subject of treatment and prevention of drug related problems is part of the topics, mainly in medical careers, as well as in Psychology and Nursing.

# Normative Framework

Paraguay has a national drug authority, the National Anti-Drug Secretariat (SENAD), created in 1991.

## **NATIONAL POLICY ON DRUGS OF PARAGUAY 2017 to 2022.**

**Goal: promotion and strengthening of the capacity of the authorities and workers, such as health and education.**



- 1. Incorporation of Drug treatment and prevention to the curricular grid of degree of 3 schools: Medicine, Nursing and Psychology. Goal: Have at least 3 universities make these additions to their curricula.**
- 2. Promote the creation of post-graduate programs for Physicians and Psychologists and Technical training programs (tertiary education, non-university).**

## Normative Framework

**Law 1340/1988 - represses the illicit traffic of drugs and other related offences and establishes measures of prevention and recovery of drug.** This law however permits the possession of certain illicit substances for medical use or of an addict, established in its Art. 30 °. ...”for his exclusive personal use, is exempt from grief. Amount allowed; In the case of marijuana, it will not exceed 10 grams and 2 grams in the case of cocaine, heroin and other opiates. ..”

Law N° 5876/2017  
**Secretaría Nacional de Administración de los Bienes Incautados y Comisados**  
(National Secretariat for the administration of seized and commissioned assets - SENABICO)

Law 6007/17 the "National Program for the study and the medical and scientific research of the medicinal use of the plant of cannabis and its derivatives (PROINCUMEC)", as a body of application of the medicinal and scientific use of cannabis in Paraguay.

# University education in Latin America and in Paraguay

50% of students entering higher education in Latin America succeed in completing university studies between 25 and 29 years of age (World Bank, 2017)



**Paraguay:**  
Universities and dictatorial system 35 years, until 1989

until 1989 two universities:

1- National University of Asuncion, (founded in 1889)

2-Catholic University NSA, (founded in 1960).

2018: 54 universities: 7 public + 47 private

Latin America, private IES (Superior Education Institutions) increased from 43% to 50% between 2000-2013. Ferreyra (2013).

# University education in Latin America and in Paraguay

1993 - Law of Universities

2003 - National Agency for Evaluation and Accreditation of higher Education (ANEAES)

National Council of Higher Education (CONES) was created by the Law of higher education, N° 4995/13 - 2013

## 3 Education Providers for the Universal Curriculum in Paraguay

1. Universidad Católica “Ntra. Sra. De la Asunción” - **UC**, founded in 1960.
2. Universidad Tecnológica Intercontinental – **UTIC**, founded in 1996.
3. Universidad Metropolitana de Asunción - **UMA** founded in 2003.

Accreditation of university careers in Paraguay is compulsory for those careers that grant qualifications that enable for the exercise of whose practice may mean damage to the integrity of the persons or their patrimony

# Training in topic of substance abuse in Paraguay

2005, Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare granted accreditations as Therapist Operators

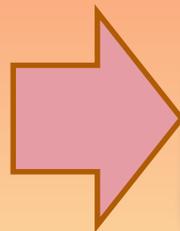
## Specialized training in drug abuse Prevention, Treatment and Research, 2004 – 2006

| Título de cursos breves de actualización o de perfeccionamiento                  | Prevención | Tratamiento | Investigación | Participantes                           | Número de participantes |      |      |
|--|------------|-------------|---------------|---|-------------------------|------|------|
|  |            |             |               |   | 2004                    | 2005 | 2006 |
| 1. Actualización de Conocimiento en el Área de Tratamiento                       | —          | —           | X             | Técnicos de la Dirección de Tratamiento | —                       | 5    | —    |
| 2. Actualización de Conocimiento sobre Drogas                                    | X          | —           | —             | Docentes                                | 280                     | —    | —    |
| 3. Diseño y planificación de programas preventivos                               | X          | —           | X             | Profesionales del ámbito preventivo     | —                       | —    | 14   |
| 4. Drogodependencia  | X          | X           | X             | Profesionales universitarios            | —                       | —    | 5    |
| 5. Estrategias en Reducción de la Demanda en Drogas - Pasantía en CONACE (Chile) | X          | I —         | —             | Técnicos y profesionales de OG y ONG    | —                       | 12   | —    |

## Training in topic of substance abuse in Paraguay

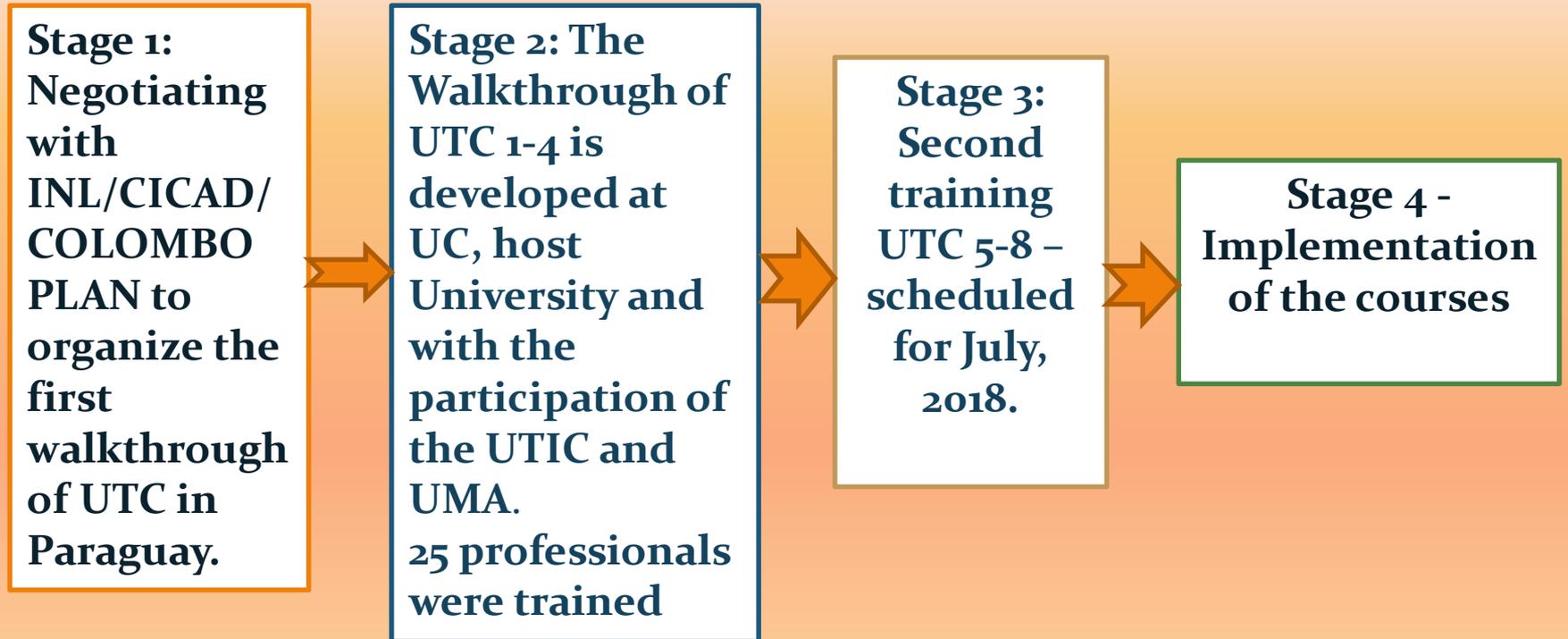
**2009: a 450-hour course was offered by the National Institute of Health, first group of specialists in treatment: 72 applicants to the program, 69 participants completed the course.**

**No continuous education programs for professionals in demand reduction**



**Implementation of UTC/UPC will fill an important gap in providing continuous addiction training**

# About the implementation of UTC curriculum in Paraguay



## Stage 4 - Implementation of the courses

| Course  | University | Schedule              | Type of educational Program  |
|---------|------------|-----------------------|--|
| UTC 1-8 | UC         | August-December, 2018 | 1) Diploma. Certificate  |
|         |            |                       | 2) Optative Seminar in undergraduate Program - Psychology department (10th semester) |
|         |            |                       | 3) Seminarios abiertos – Open Seminars   |
|         |            | Semester 2, 2019      | 4) Specialization Postgraduate 360 HS. (224 attend + 136 internships)                |
| UTC 1-8 | UTIC       | August-December, 2018 | Diploma. Certificate.  |
| UTC 1-8 | UMA        |                       | Information not available  |





Conclusions and proposals...

Paraguayan socio-political, cultural and economic reality, similar to others in Latin America and the world



implementation of Universal Curricula in higher education find many obstacles and challenges.

(economic interests, political and sectorial bias)

Services provided by the Treatment Centers for drug-related problems are characterized by weakness of existing services; **insufficient** infrastructure resources, budgetary and **trained workforce in addictions field**; **lack of accreditation of programs and professionals**

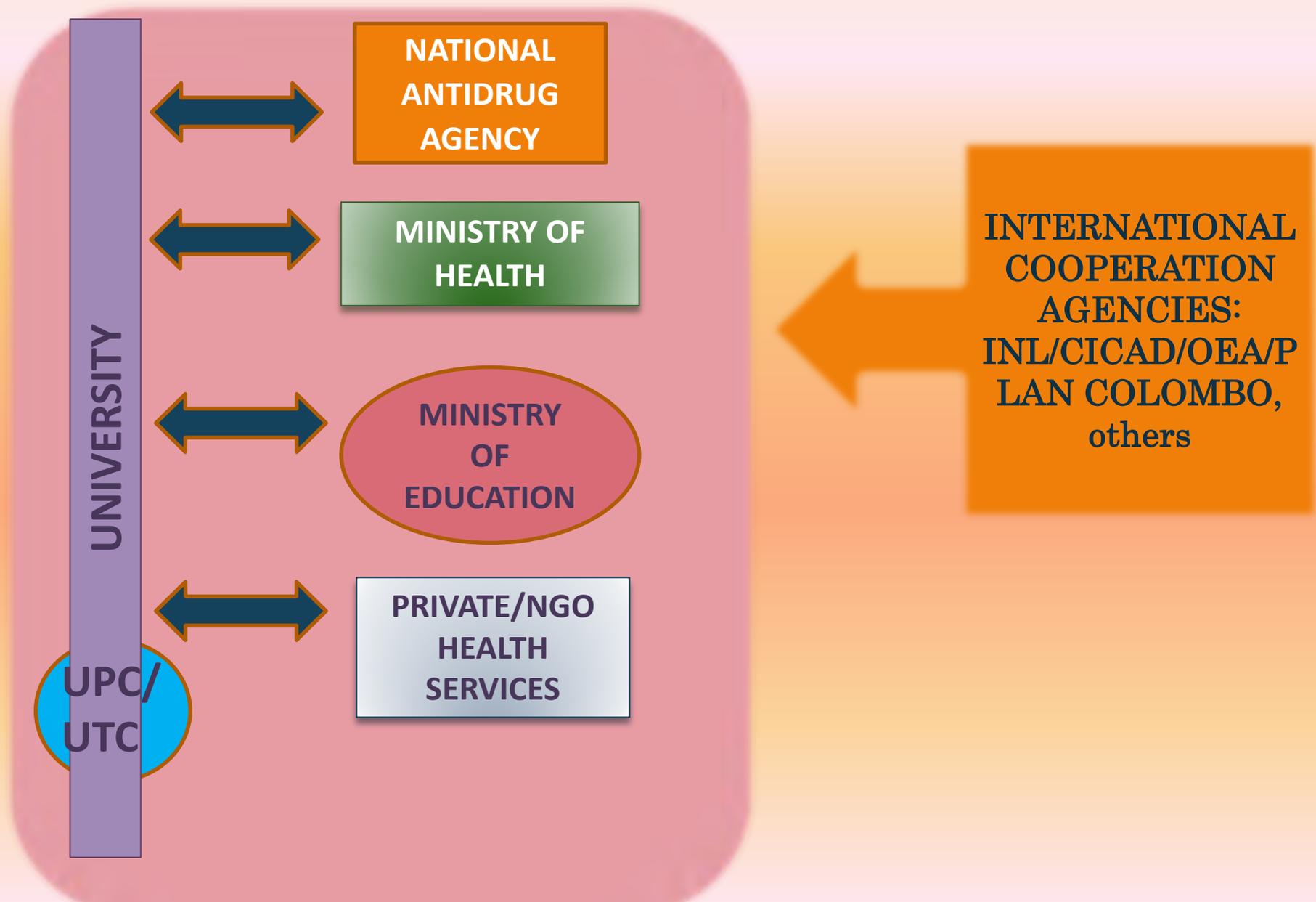
## ICUDDR role

- To support and respect each institution,
- To systematize the implementation and evaluation of the courses;
- To take note of the lessons learned in the countries of all continents that have a longer trajectory in implementing the Universal Curricula.

**ICUDDR – commitment to generate continuous thinking, discussions, orientations for what implies the joint work of several organizations**

- ✓ Interests, codes of communication and functioning of these institutions are different;
- ✓ Goal is trying to integrate them, involving and committing the national Policy makers in the field of prevention and treatment of addictions.
- ✓ Universal Curricula are inserted into a complex set of relationships, interests and challenges. It is imperative that in this context, universities preserve their **academic autonomy**.

**SOCIO-Political-historical-CULTURAL-economic context**



- There is a path to be marked out,
- many people with a desire to learn,
- many tasks to manage, negotiations, and above all,
- Many questions, brought to this forum in search of shared reflections and guidelines which should help us to keep on journeying.

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