



# INCB LEARNING NEWSLETTER



Building capacities to ensure adequate access to controlled substances

October 2018

Welcome to the INCB Learning Newsletter.

Launched in 2016, INCB Learning is one of the Board's initiatives to assist Member States in implementing the recommendations of the **UNGASS 2016 outcome document**. INCB Learning addresses the barriers to adequate availability of indispensable controlled substances, particularly by **raising awareness** and providing **training**.

## Activities implemented

Up to September 2018, INCB Learning trained over **180 officials** from 79 countries and territories.

It implemented a total of 6 regional training seminars, 2 national awareness-raising workshops and 3 e-learning modules.

## INCB Learning in Dakar

From 10 to 12 September 2018, INCB Learning conducted a **training** seminar to strengthen the monitoring and reporting capacities of **Francophone African countries**. Held in Dakar, Senegal, it brought together 29 drug control officials from Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon, Guinea, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

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*"INCB Learning addresses the barriers to adequate availability of indispensable substances"*

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*Regional training in Dakar for Francophone Africa*



*Regional training in Dakar for Francophone Africa*

During the training, a regional awareness-raising workshop was delivered on **adequate medical access** to controlled substances in the region, organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Interior of Senegal, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Health Organization (WHO) and the African Palliative Care Association (APCA).

### **Monitoring availability: estimates and statistics**

INCB is the repository of the global data on the availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for the treatment of health conditions, including mental and neurological disorders, and the management of symptoms, such as pain and palliative care. This data is reported by Member States on a mandatory basis as established by the

**Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, and the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971.**

Countries report annually on their **statistics** of consumption, cultivation and production for the past calendar year, and on their **estimated needs** for such substances for the next calendar year. This information is verified based on the trade data reported by all trading countries on a quarterly basis.

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*"INCB is the repository of the global data on availability"*

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INCB Learning supports countries and territories in improving their reporting performance, strengthening the international drug control system with the goal of enabling countries to **improve availability of and access to** narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, while **preventing diversion** to illicit channels and abuse.

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*"Strengthening monitoring and reporting capacities"*

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*Availability workshop for Kenya*



*Regional training in Vienna for European countries*

## Previous training activities

The regional training seminars organised in 2016-2017 are:

- for **East Africa**: Nairobi, 25-29 April 2016
  - 17 participants
  - Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Rwanda, Seychelles, Tanzania and Uganda
- for **South and East Asia and the Pacific**: Bangkok, 12-15 July 2016
  - 45 participants
  - Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Viet-Nam
- for **Europe**: Vienna, 4-6 July 2017
  - 54 participants
  - Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden
- for **Oceania**: Sydney, 28-30 November 2017
  - 19 participants
  - Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, Micronesia, New Caledonia, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu
- for **Central America**: Guatemala City, 11-13 December 2017
  - 24 participants
  - Guatemala and Honduras

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*Regional training in Guatemala City for Guatemala and Honduras*

## Availability workshops

National awareness-raising workshops facilitate the dialogue between governments, civil society, international organisations and partner countries to **find common ground** and **identify solutions to improve access** to narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical purposes. They have been organised:

- for **Kenya** in April 2016 in Nairobi
- for **Thailand** in July 2016 in Bangkok

UNODC and WHO have also actively contributed to the success of those workshops, which are a follow-up to the conclusions of the INCB 2015 Availability Report.

## E-learning modules

To complement the regional training seminars and the availability workshops, **3 e-learning modules**

have been developed, in cooperation with UNODC, for use of competent national authorities:

- The Estimates System for Narcotic Drugs
- The Assessment System for Psychotropic Substances
- Estimates of Annual Legitimate Requirements (ALRs) for Imports of Precursors of Amphetamine-Type Stimulants

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*"Facilitating the dialogue between governments, civil society, international organisations and partner countries"*

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## Contributors

Governments of Australia, Belgium, France and United States have contributed to INCB Learning.

Further support from Member States is required to sustain and expand project activities.

### INCB Learning Project

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