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INCB INITIATIVES TO SUPPORT MEMBER STATES

INCB Learning

INCB Learning is the Board's initiative to deliver capacity-building support to Governments in implementing the provisions of the three international drug control treaties and the Sustainable Development Goals. The initiative includes five e-modules for online learning (in English and other languages) as well as virtual and in-person training and seminars.

In 2022, INCB Learning conducted virtual training seminars for 30 officials from 10 countries in Africa, Central America and the Caribbean, and South America.

In 2022, a new e-module to help Governments ensure adequate availability of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes was developed.

As of 1 November 2022, 1,259 officials from 145 countries and territories have enrolled in INCB Learning e-modules, and more than half (54 per cent) were women. The Board encourages Governments to register officials from their competent national authorities for the e-modules and to provide feedback to INCB on areas in which further training is needed.

INCB Global Rapid Interdiction of Dangerous Substances (GRIDS) Programme

The GRIDS Programme, including the real-time communication platform IONICS, promotes the sharing of information by law enforcement authorities to prevent dangerous substances from reaching consumer markets. In 2022, a significant increase in real-time exchanges of trafficking information among law enforcement and regulatory authorities was recorded on the IONICS platform. Exchanges on new psychoactive substances (NPS) and dangerous non-medical synthetic opioids including emerging synthetic non-fentanyl opioids, such as dangerous nitazene group substances led directly to investigations and helped law enforcement dismantle organized crime groups in several countries.

Over the past year, the INCB GRIDS Programme convened 30 training events for more than 600 front-line officers. The training was led by regional technical officers based in Egypt, India, Mexico, Nigeria and Thailand and focused on the safe handling and seizure of opioids, and information exchanges using the IONICS and GRIDS platforms.

Targeted operational action within the framework of INCB cooperation agreements with the Oceania Customs Organization, the Universal Postal Union, the World Customs Organization and most recently CARICOM IMPACS, enhance international efforts to identify NPS trafficking hubs. An example of this is the 2021/22 Operation GAPZ, which involved law and regulatory enforcement focal points under the INCB Project Ion and the OPIOIDS Project and resulted in seizures.





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INCB precursor control programme

Engaging the chemical industry is key to addressing an evolving illicit drug market

Rapidly changing trends in drug and precursor trafficking require flexible, active responses and the engagement of the industry through public-private partnerships. INCB and 12 Governments are testing an innovative approach to strengthen industry participation in addressing the challenges in international precursor control and preventing the infiltration by criminal drug operators of licit chemical markets.

INCB and Member States cooperate in tracking illicit drug manufacturing equipment

Governments increasingly recognize the need to track illicit drug manufacturing equipment and enhance the operational use of article 13 of the 1988 Convention. The Board has developed guidance materials and practical tools and encouraged government cooperation to prevent and investigate cases of diversion and trafficking of equipment used in illicit drug manufacture. In October 2022, INCB met with Member States on the subject and launched the Board's first technical report on equipment and article 13.