

Kazakhstan

The EU-funded Central Asia Drug Action Programme (EU CADAP) is a European Union initiative to promote the development of effective drug demand reduction policies in Central Asian countries.

In line with the EU Drugs Strategy 2021-2025, and the Joint Communication on “The EU and Central Asia: New Opportunities for a Stronger Partnership”, CADAP 7 reflects the continuity of the EU long-term engagement with Central Asian partners to help further strengthen their drug demand reduction national plans and continue cooperating in the development of integrated and balanced drug policies. The implementation of CADAP 7 is guided by the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. CADAP 7 is also based on the relevant UN Conventions which provide the international legal framework for addressing the illicit drugs phenomenon, and the Universal Declaration on Human Rights.

On this phase, CADAP is being led by the [International and Ibero-American Foundation for Administration and Public Policies \(FIIAPP\)](#) with the strategic and technical support of other EU Member States’ drug agencies as well as the specialized expertise of the [EU Drugs Agency \(EUDA\)](#).

Since its launch in 2003, the different phases of CADAP have supported the government of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the implementation of strategies and measures to reduce the demand for drugs, promoting prevention initiatives and improving the treatment offered by public institutions to drug users in the country.

CADAP 7 is supporting Republic of Kazakhstan in a comprehensive manner, integrating the country’s participation in the working groups of the five main outputs of the Programme (drug, policy, data collection, prevention, treatment and coordination), providing technical guidance to the initiatives agreed with the national authorities and donating supplies and equipment to reinforce the actions promoted by the Programme. CADAP 7 is supporting the establishment of the Drug monitoring centre in the frame of a Comprehensive Plan on combating drug addiction and drug trafficking in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2025 through specialised sessions and initiatives on establishment of an Early Warning System (EWS).

Drug Policy

CADAP 7 has strengthened national policy dialogue which has contributed to the development of more balanced drug policies, strategies, and plans in the Republic of Kazakhstan. The country’s Comprehensive plan combating drug addiction and drug trafficking in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2025 supported by CADAP 7 reflects several recommendations and measures, as described in the CADAP 7 - *Handbook on Drug Policy Development* and within the *Regional Drug Policy Report*.

The drug policy output is implemented with the support of [Episteme Social](#), Spain.

Data collection

CADAP7 has increased technical and institutional capacity, enhanced regional cooperation and experience exchange, and strengthened early warning mechanisms for new psychoactive substances elaborating epidemiological surveys, guidelines and reports: *Current situation of Data Collection and Drug Early Warning Systems in the Republic of Kazakhstan; Implementation manual on Early Warning Systems on New Psychoactive Substances; Guidelines on compiling a country situation profile; Guidelines on Compiling the Annual Drug Situation Report*.

The data collection output is implemented with the support of [Společnost Podané ruce](#), Czechia.

Prevention

The Comprehensive plan combating drug addiction and drug trafficking in the Republic of Kazakhstan for 2023-2025 reflects ongoing key CADAP initiatives on prevention, such as *targeted prevention programmes for women and vulnerable groups*, *stigma reduction in local communities* and the development of a *specialized drug abuse prevention curriculum*. CADAP-7 provided support for the development of drug prevention programmes and training for university psychologists in several regions of the Republic of Kazakhstan on how to implement these programmes for young people. The pilot programme is scheduled to be implemented from February to May 2025.

CADAP 7 has also promoted the cooperation between the state and civil society in the field of primary prevention through public coalitions.

The output on Prevention is implemented with the support of expertise from [Poland](#).

Drug Treatment

CADAP 7 has elaborated a *Therapeutic programme for the treatment of people with psychoactive substance disorders* addressed to health professionals in the Republic of Kazakhstan and a *Protocol of Collaboration between prison staff and civil society regarding people who use drugs in prison*.

In addition, CADAP 7 closely works with Nazarbayev University, under this output, in supporting the public authorities in Central Asian countries for the development of an educational curriculum that incorporates topics related to the treatment of people with psychoactive substance use disorders

The Treatment output is implemented with the support of [Akzept e.V.](#), Germany and [Nazarbayev University](#).

Coordination

Several initiatives were conducted to enhance the programme's effectiveness, increase technical and institutional capacity on drug policy, data collection and drug demand reduction issues, and to promote and widen regional, international cooperation and dialogue. These events took place across Central Asia countries and EU MS such as, Belgium, Austria, Portugal, Spain, involving approximately 120 delegates and experts from the Republic of Kazakhstan. The activities and events were conducted in partnership with Spanish institutions (Government Delegation for the National Plan on Drugs – [DGPNSD](#), and the Intelligence Center against Terrorism and Organized Crime - [CITCO](#)) Presidencies of the Council of the EU (Czech Republic, Spain), EU-funded programmes (BOMCA, EU ACT, LEICA) and international bodies and agencies (UNODC, EUDA, US INL-CADCA).

Impact of CADAP 7

- Assisted the Republic of Kazakhstan to update own national legislation on drugs through the implementation of evidence-based prevention and treatment interventions.
- Human capital – increased capacity in drug demand reduction and a vast pool of professionals trained.
- Provided a platform for international visibility and recognition, particularly good practices in Central Asia.
- Built professional capacity through specialised training, resulting in a broader network of skilled practitioners.
- Facilitated the procurement of essential equipment, reinforcing the ability of key stakeholders to implement and monitor effective programmes.

- Promoted regional exchange of knowledge and best practices, supporting harmonised strategies across Central Asia.
- Supported the creation of an Early Warning System (EWS).