



Newsletter

December 2018

Happy New Year!

The WFAD Secretariat looks forward to another prosperous year in continued cooperation with our members.

We would like to take this chance to extend our warmest holiday wishes!

You have all worked very hard this past year, and had many positive results. Contact us if you would like to share your journey with us and other WFAD members. We warmly welcome any updates from you and your organisation.

This Newsletter

In this Newsletter you will find some information from our joint project's mid-term report, updates from the preparations for the 62nd CND, how to become a guest poster on WFAD's Instagram page, and read more about our very first webinar. We hope you enjoy!

Time to have your say! **Call for Applications**

Civil Society speakers for the Civil Society Task Force (CSTF) Hearings in New York and Vienna.

Deadline: 9 January 2019 at 11:55 p.m. CET.

The Civil Society Task Force (CSTF), a joint initiative of the New York and Vienna NGO Committees on Drugs, will hold two Global Civil Society Hearings at the United Nations - one in New York and one in Vienna - to support preparations for the forthcoming Ministerial Segment of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

The Civil Society Hearings are titled "**Voices fo Civil Society: Beyond 2019**" and will be held in late January or early February (the exact dates are still to be determined, and will be communicated as soon as possible).

The goal of the Global Civil Society Hearings is to update member states on CSTF activities, in particular the results of the Global Civil Society Consultation, as well as to provide valuable inputs from civil society experts from around the world, and to allow space for a dialogue between civil society and policy makers

Read the guidelines [here](#) and apply via the following [application form](#).

ChooseRecovery

Balkan project – Choose Recovery

Highlights from the midterm report – highlights are taken from the midterm report

The World Federation Against Drugs is together with three organisations Proslavi Oporavak in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Preporod in Montenegro and Restart Serbia in Serbia, carrying out a project in Balkan region, in Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro. All member organisations are working in drug addiction field in areas of motivation for treatment and re-socialization after treatment as the primary focus of their organisations.

The overall project objective is to strengthen the society's responses towards people who use drugs and people affected by drug abuse and thereby improve their position in society. The project is a continuation of a pilot project that was conducted during 2015 and the first month of 2016 which aimed to map the needs of the societies and also to assess the possibility to deepen the cooperation between state and the civil society in this field.

Based on the mapped needs of the societies a project was planned stretching from 2017-2020. Below are some highlights from the midterm report from this joint Project:

The project has seen a great success since the onset and throughout. Since its initiation, a free telephone helpline and Substance Abuse Community Counselling Centre, SACCC, have been established in the three countries and promoted in national and regional media. In order to increase the outreach in the countryside of the three countries, and to make the services more visible and accessible partner have used many channels for promotion, including posters and leaflets.

The organisations also initiated a Facebook campaign and campaigns through the health care system, social welfare institutions, and the police. In Bosnia and Serbia, posters are displayed in many hospitals and mental health institutions, at different police stations as well as NGOs working with youth, families and vulnerable- and at risk populations, as well as the Employment Agencies across the region. The phone line and the SACCC are working on the principles of confidentiality and anonymity for all, so people can ask for help without fear of stigmatization. The Centre is functioning with trained staff during past fifteen months and people with substance abuse problem are seeking help more than before, according to statistics and data base of phone calls.

The organisations assessed that emphasis should be placed on early interventions, as the majority of people who call the helpline are parents of young people. After the assessment the organisations also involved school staff in their multi-sector meetings and received inspiring feedback and commitment from the school psychologists and social workers.

The World Drug Day 2018 is a day of rare occasion, when the public and media's attention is focused on illicit drug use and addiction. The campaign carried out for World Drug Day was assessed as very successful, and was carefully prepared to promote the telephone helpline and SACCC. To increase the scope of their impact and to mark the day on Social Media and web portals, the organisations produced several promotional materials such as a shot 29-second film, a 4-minute animation of public opinion and research as well as a radio jingle.

Making a difference?

The project assessment is that their work during the past period has made a significant impact on the project's target group. Their first and most important target group, people with substance abuse problems and their families, now have direct access to the organisation's services.

During the period 1 June 2017- 20 September 2018, the organisations provided a total of 1082 services (phone calls and in-person meetings) to different active users, individuals in recovery as members of their families.

Guest post on WFAD's Instagram!

WFAD is currently working making our Instagram into a platform for our members to share their work and best practices. By doing so, member organisations of WFAD have the possibility to guest-post on WFAD's Instagram account for a one-or two-week period. We are hoping to create an account that shows WFAD's many members and their great work, while opting for prevention and recovery – through creating an easy accessible platform for, and by, our members.

Would you like to be our next guest poster?

Send an email to info@wfad.se and tell us why your organisation should be guest poster on the WFAD Instagram account.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Prevent - don't - promote

President Statement 61st Session CND

On December 5-7th 2018, the Reconvened Intersessionals with the Commission on Narcotic Drugs were held in Vienna.

WFAD President Esbjörn Hörnberg called for nine focus points: The Way Forward; Mobilize a Million Communities; Prioritise early intervention and assistance to vulnerable groups; Offer treatment, rehabilitation, and harm-reduction alternatives; Organise local support systems after specialised treatment; Support self-help Groups for drug users and those in recovery; Support alternative development; Develop and implement alternatives to incarceration; and Implement the principle of proportionality in sanctions.

WFAD President concluded by stating that drug use is a multifaceted problem with bio-socio-psychological origin: "That is why Civil Society can bring powerful results when it

addresses all these elements on various levels. Civil Society has the advantage of being more flexible, of being rooted among people - those it serves and in understanding the structures of governance in their country. Those are strong tools for solving the problem and creating the change we want to see in the World."

Read the full statement [here](#).



Webinar: Consequences of legalization of cannabis in Colorado, U.S.

On the 14th of November, WFAD hosted its very first webinar* on the consequences of legalization of cannabis in Colorado, US.

Among other topics, Dr. Christian Thurstone and Christine Tatum discussed the increase of cannabis use among youth, the effects of legalization to the illegal market and how other states are affected by legalization in Colorado.

*A webinar is an online seminar, free of charge, accessible through anywhere via a given link.

Keep an eye out for future webinars.



WEBINARS

Throughout the year, WFAD will host online



The 62nd Session of the CND - Ministerial Segment

The reconvened Interessionals with the Commission on Narcotic



Commission on Narcotic Drugs 62nd regular session (14-15 and 18-22 March 2019)
Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice 10th regular session (20-24 May 2019)
Guidelines for Side Events 2019
Application Period:
CND (7 January to 24 January 2019)
CCPCJ (25 March to 11 April 2019)

Side Events CND
Does your organisation

Webinars that are accessible to all members. The Webinars will be held by different professionals and discussing themes such as:

- Prevention
- Recovery
- Global Drug Policies

We will send out more detailed information including how to access the webinars shortly, until then, make sure to keep yourself posted via our [Facebook](#) and Newsletters.

Drugs were held in December in preparations for the 62nd Regular Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs.

In the political Declaration and plan for Action on the international Cooperation towards a more integrated and balanced strategy to counter the World drug problem, adopted in 2009, Member States decided to establish 2019 as a target date or the goals set in the operative paragraph of the Political Declaration. Read more [here](#).

wish to hold a Side Event during the 62nd Regular Session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs? The CND Will take Place in Vienna 12-22 March 2019.

The application period for Side Events is the 7-24th of January 2019. The form to register your side event will be available [here](#).

Please note that the form must be fully completed for a request to be considered.

Are you a member of WFAD and want news from your organization published on the WFAD website or Newsletters? Get in touch with us via email: info@wfad.se.



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