

Expert Workshop on Supply-Oriented Harm Reduction



Organized by WOLA and TNI

May 10, 2011

9:00 am-3:00 pm

WOLA Conference Room

1666 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 400

Washington, DC 20009



WOLA

PROGRAM

8:30 am-9:00 am	Continental Breakfast
9:00 am-9:15 am	Welcome and Introductions
9:15 am-11:00 am	I – Research Agenda
11:00 am-11:15 am	Coffee Break
11:15 am-1:00 pm	II – Public Opinion and Policy Reform Opportunities
1:00 pm-1:45 pm	Lunch
1:45 pm-2:30 pm	III – Network Building
2:30 pm-3:00 pm	IV – Conclusions and Next Steps

AGENDA and DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Session I: Research Agenda (9:15 am-11:00 am)

Advancing the state-of-the-art in applying harm reduction approaches to supply-oriented challenges.

Opening remarks by **Victoria Greenfield**, **Peter Reuter**, and **Daniel Mejía**

- What are the conceptual and empirical strengths and weaknesses of the case for applying harm reduction to supply-oriented policy?
- What specific harms associated with illicit drug production, distribution and drug control policies themselves can be identified and measured?
- What are the most severe harms that stem from policy *per se*, and who bears brunt of these policy-generated harms?
- What difference do varied local, national, and institutional settings make?
- How would a harm reduction framework re-define policy goals and shape performance measurement indicators?
- How would re-cast goals and performance indicators affect agencies' incentives and priorities?
- Are there examples of supply-oriented harm reduction in practice (whether or not under "harm reduction" banner)?
- What does harm reduction look like for sets of discrete supply-oriented challenges: e.g., crop growing and alternative livelihoods strategies, wholesale distribution, retail distribution?

Session II: Public Opinion and Policy Reform Opportunities (11:15 am-1:00 pm)

Enhancing the appeal of supply-oriented harm reduction approaches for the public and policy makers.

Opening remarks by **Pedro Abramovay**, **Vanda Felbab-Brown**, and **Hans Mathieu**

- What are the impediments to adoption of supply-oriented harm reduction, including intellectual, semantic, political, bureaucratic/institutional, and cultural obstacles?
- What are the public's main concerns regarding illicit drugs and related problems?
- What are the values and principles around which a shift toward harm reduction might be framed?
- Are there arguments/narratives/processes with potential to overcome impediments to application of harm reduction strategies?
- What are the costs (political, social, economic, etc.) of continuing with status quo policies?
- Are there specific governments, agencies, or officials already prepared to implement a harm reduction approach?
- Are there foreseeable policy reform opportunities where the stage is already being set, and where research/advocacy should contribute?
- How can open-minded officials be identified and cultivated?

Session III: Network Building (1:45 pm – 2:30 pm)

Contributing to the growth of a global multi-disciplinary research and advocacy network to apply harm reduction to supply-oriented policy.

Opening remarks by **David Holiday** and **Tom Kramer**

- What other researchers/advocates, across disciplines and countries, might be engaged?
- What like-minded networking may already be occurring?
- What literature already exists, and how can it be best shared and promoted?

Conclusions and Next Steps (2:30 pm – 3:00 pm)

In light of the opportunities and the obstacles that have been identified, how can we strengthen the effort to apply harm reduction approaches to supply-oriented challenges?

Opening remarks by **Martin Jelsma** and **John Walsh**