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# International cooperation

The drugs problem is a global and complex phenomenon. Effective measures require close and coordinated involvement of a wide range of actors including at international level. International cooperation plays an important role in achieving a common and scientifically-based understanding of the problem.

The EMCDDA offers a range of options to potential international partners seeking cooperation — from close participation in the EMCDDA's routine data collection activities to ad hoc technical collaboration on specific supranational projects.

The result is an increasingly better understanding of the drugs phenomenon.

## Exchange of data and methodological information

As information is the core task of the EMCDDA, a fluid exchange of data and methodological information with all partners is essential. Terms and conditions that ensure this international information exchange are usually described in specific agreements.

## Scientific cooperation

Scientific cooperation within and outside the EU is key for an organisation seeking to become a centre of excellence in the field of drugs information. Priority is accorded to cooperation with high-level scientific institutions and with key international organisations working in the drugs field or in drugs information.

## Participation in the work of the EMCDDA

Candidate and potential candidate countries may participate in the EMCDDA's daily work as part of the EU *acquis* learning process. This possibility is also open to third countries.

## Training and technical assistance

The EMCDDA has developed its own model of training and technical assistance, including the Reitox Academy training programme, the Reitox network and other national experts.

