**National Chapter Guidelines – Summary**

ISSUP – the International Society of Substance Use Professionals – was formally established in 2016. ISSUP’s mission is to play a major role in the **professionalisation of the Drug Demand Reduction workforce in order to promote ethical, high quality and evidence-based policy and practice in the field of substance use prevention, treatment and recovery**. It is a **unique, free, global membership organisation**, funded by the US Department of State’s [Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs](https://www.issup.net/about-issup/international-partners/inl) (INL). ISSUP works in cooperation with key international organisations operating in the drug demand reduction field including the United National Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Health Organisation (WHO), Colombo Plan, and the Organisation of American States (OAS).

**ISSUP has three key strands of work:**

* **Digitally through its unique website, social media and newsletters**; providing online networking, access to up to date knowledge, resources and training.
* **Virtually and in person,** providing international and regional conferences, meetings, and access to networking, training and credentialing opportunities around the world.
* **Locally through its *National Chapters*,** delivering the ISSUP mission within their countries, operating as the National ISSUP “provider” in those countries.

The **National Chapter Guidelines** focus on the third and major aspect of ISSUP’s work and have been written to give some detail on what it means to be an ISSUP National Chapter. It includes a lot of information with respect to **who is eligible to apply to become a National Chapter** and **what is required in order to establish, develop and operate in this role**. It is a comprehensive guide that provides essential and detailed information to those who wish to learn more about ISSUP National Chapters and in particular to those who may wish to apply to be the host or lead organisation in establishing one.

The Guidelines provide information on key issues including:

* What is ISSUP and what are ISSUP National Chapters
* Criteria for establishing a National Chapter
* The National Chapter Application Process
* Ethics and Funding of National Chapters
* The National Chapters Websites
* Membership of ISSUP and National Chapters
* Training
* Relationships with ECOSOC and the Vienna NGO Committee
* Principles of Good Governance for National Chapters

The National Chapter Guidelines are particularly useful, indeed essential, to those organisations who express a formal “Expression of Interest” in establishing a National Chapter. For further information about ISSUP National Chapters, please contact [nationalchapter@issup.net](mailto:nationalchapter@issup.net)**.**