



ISSUP Mexico participate at the opening of the Master in Substance Abuse Prevention led by ISSUP Argentina

The launch of the new master's degree "**Problematic Consumption of Psychoactive Substances from a Social and Health Perspective**" was held. This academic program will be incorporated into the curriculum of the **University of the Argentine Social Museum**, headquarters of the ISSUP Argentina Chapter.

As part of this inauguration, a panel discussion was held among ISSUP representatives in Latin America, as well as other activities to promote the integration of **National Chapters in the region**.

Miriam Carrillo, Director of Prevention at *Centros de Integración Juvenil, A.C. (CIJ*, acronym in Spanish), host institution of the **ISSUP Mexico National Chapter**, participated in this event, held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

The event was inaugurated by **Gabriela Torres**, representative of the Secretariat of Drug Policies of Argentina (SEDRONAR, acronym in Spanish). Also **Jimena Kalawski**, Chief of Demand Reduction and **Andrea Escobar**, Program Officer; were present, both from the Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD, acronym in Spanish). Likewise **Roberto Canay**, President of ISSUP Argentina and Director of the Master's program that motivated this meeting; **Livia Edegger**, Deputy Director of ISSUP Global and **Bárbara Correa**, Regional Coordinator of ISSUP National Chapters was participating.

Among the activities organized within the framework of this important event, the results of a CICAD initiative were presented, where technical assistance was provided to monitor the selection, implementation and evaluation of preventive interventions. These results showed the importance of harm reduction programs and their impact at the local, regional and international levels. Likewise, the experiences of the different collaborations and upcoming events planned to be carried out by the other National Chapters were shared.

On the other hand, a visit was made to the Railway Welfare Fund, where an occupational prevention program is being implemented by ISSUP Argentina. During this visit, the people representing the Chapters were able to hear the testimonies of both the facilitators and the workers who have benefited from this initiative. A visit was also made to the treatment center of the Aylén Foundation, which is dedicated to prevention, assistance and

training in the field of drug use, which belongs to the network of organizations in the Latin American region, such as the Ibero-American Network of Non-Governmental Organizations working on Drugs and Addictions (RIOD, acronym in Spanish) and the Latin American Federation of Therapeutic Communities (FLACT, acronym in Spanish).

To conclude this meeting, ISSUP Global took the representatives of the National Chapters of Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Peru and Mexico to see the venue of the next ISSUP Regional Conference, to be held at the University of the Argentine Social Museum, in Buenos Aires, in April 2023.

Meetings such as this one reflect the importance of cooperation between the different countries at the regional level, and reaffirm the commitment of ISSUP Global and the National Chapters of Latin America in the prevention, treatment and implementation of programs for the reduction of substance use in Latin America.

