



Alcohol and Other Drugs Peaks Network Capability Statement for the Australian Government

OUR VISION

An Australian community with the lowest possible levels of alcohol, tobacco and other drug related harm, as a result of the alcohol, tobacco and other drug sector's evidence-informed prevention, treatment and harm reduction policies and services.

WHO WE ARE

The AOD Peaks Network comprises of all state and territory peak bodies:

- Alcohol Tobacco and Other Drug Association ACT (ATODA)
- Alcohol, Tobacco and other Drugs Council Tasmania (ATDC)
- Association of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies Northern Territory (AADANT)
- Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (NADA)
- Queensland Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (QNADA)
- South Australian Network of Alcohol and Drug Services (SANDAS)
- Victorian Alcohol and Drug Association (VAADA)
- Western Australian Network of Alcohol and other Drug Agencies (WANADA)

OUR REACH & WHO WE REPRESENT

We provide a conduit for immediate access to alcohol and other drug services in all Australian jurisdictions. We represent:

- 435 organisations (primarily non-government), which includes 80% of organisations funded to provide AOD services by the Commonwealth;
- All specialist treatment types (counselling, detoxification, residential and non-residential rehabilitation, opiate replacement therapy) and harm reduction services;
- \$377,905,578 of State, Territory and Commonwealth AOD services funding investment; and
- 80,000 Australians who receive an episode of care annually.



WHAT WE DO

The AOD Peaks Network advances and supports alcohol and other drug services in all Australian jurisdictions to prevent, treat and reduce alcohol, tobacco and other drug related harms to individuals, families and communities. To enable this we provide expert services in:

- Capacity building
- Sector and workforce development
- Quality improvement
- Education and research
- Information and communication
- Coordination and partnerships
- Information management and data collection
- Representation and consultation
- Program development for State, Territory and Commonwealth governments
- Policy advice for State, Territory and Commonwealth governments.

A recent evaluation of the peaks capacity building work found “an analysis of the empirical data elicited through the evaluation, and the program theory underpinning the peaks' capacity building work, leads to the conclusion that the capacity building work has produced, and is continuing to produce, a more effective, efficient and sustainable AOD sector, producing sound outcomes for AOD clients.”¹

WHAT WE HAVE TO OFFER THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENTS:

The AOD Peaks Network is an effective tool for government in the AOD sector by:

- Providing frontline, real-time jurisdictional intelligence to State, Territory and Commonwealth governments on AOD policies, programs and problems;
- Being an invaluable source of information on government investment, protecting investment in community/NGO AOD services across all jurisdictions by supporting the implementation of evidence based practice and workforce development;
- Supporting government by enabling effective and consistent implementation of reform across all jurisdictions;
- Being a conduit for communication between government and service providers and consumers in the AOD sector;
- Assisting government in program planning and decision making;
- Supporting collaboration across the sector, with other sectors, and across jurisdictions; and
- Supporting information exchange between jurisdictions to minimise duplication in policy and program development.

CONTACT

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¹ McDonald, D 2015, Evaluation of AOD peak bodies' roles in building capacity in the Australian non-government alcohol and other drugs sector: final report, Social Research & Evaluation, Wamboin, NSW.