UNODC
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

Illicit drugs in East Asia and the Pacific: “Recent developments and looking over the horizon"

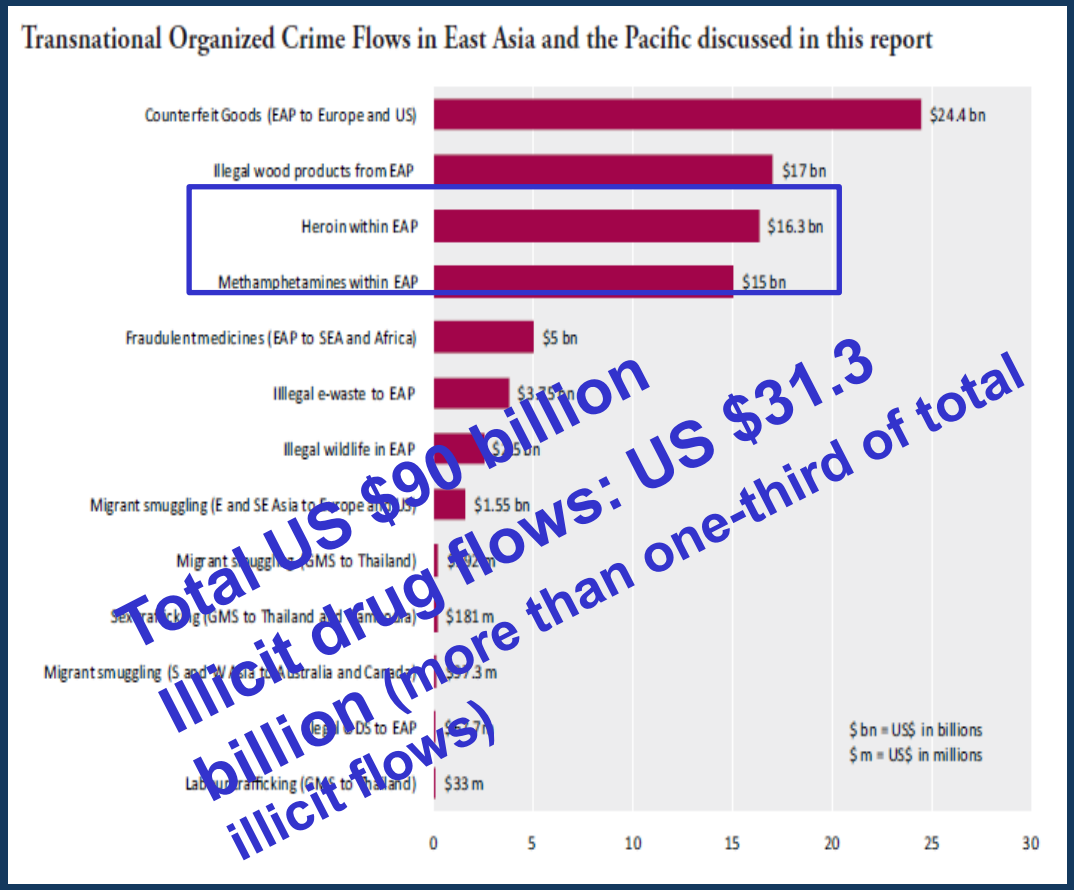
Sydney, 20 October 2014

Presentation structure

- Situation assessments by drug type
- Looking over the horizon
- Regional Programme for Southeast Asia (2014-2017)

Drug trafficking in East Asia and the Pacific: conservative estimate

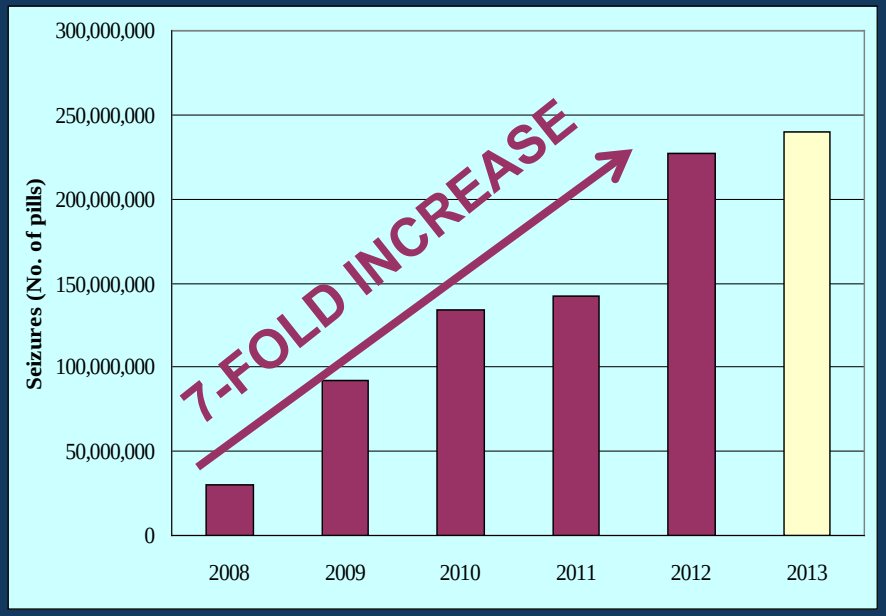
Largest illicit flows in the region



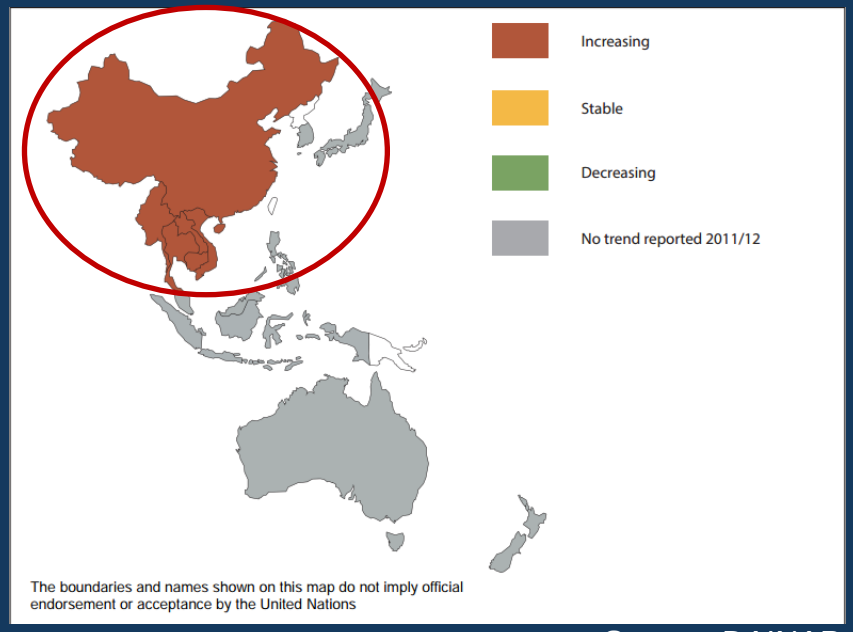
- **Illicit drugs (heroin and methamphetamine) : US $31.3 billion**
- Counterfeits (general goods and fraudulent medicines) : US $30 billion
- Environmental crime (timber, wildlife, e-waste and ODS): US $24 billion
- People (trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling): US $2 billion

Methamphetamine pill seizures in E/SE Asia (2008-2013*) and use trend (2012)

Reached historic highs in 2012



Source: DAINAP



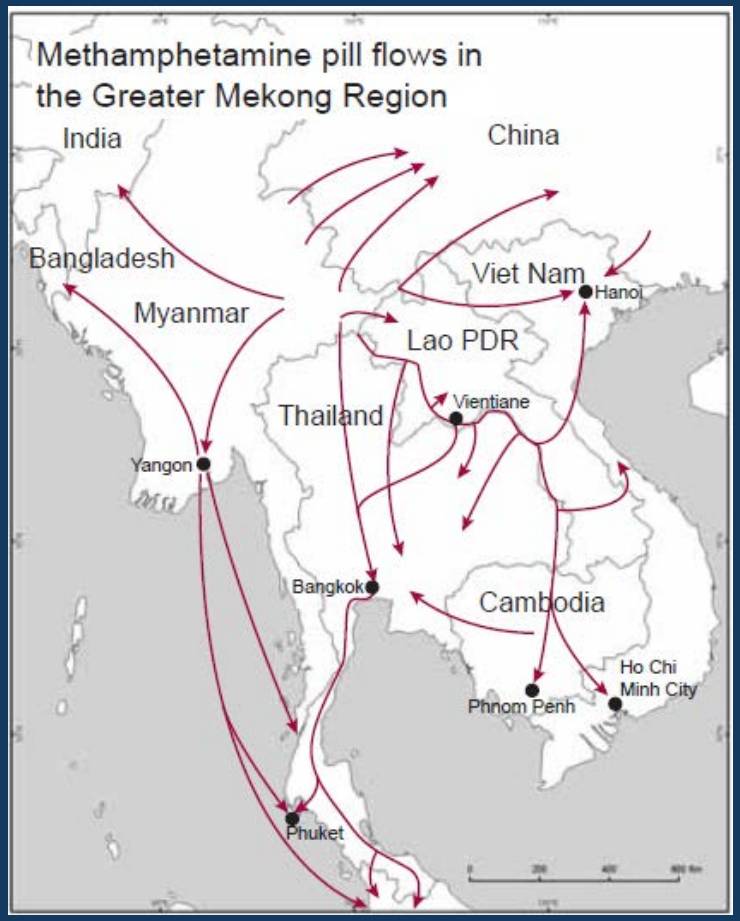
Source: DAINAP

- 2008: total seizures 30 million
- 2012: total seizures 227 million
- 2013: the estimated total seizures 240 million

** Data for 2013 are preliminary and likely to revise to a higher number*

Methamphetamine pill flows in E/SE Asia

Almost exclusively found in the GMS but still expanding to other neighboring countries



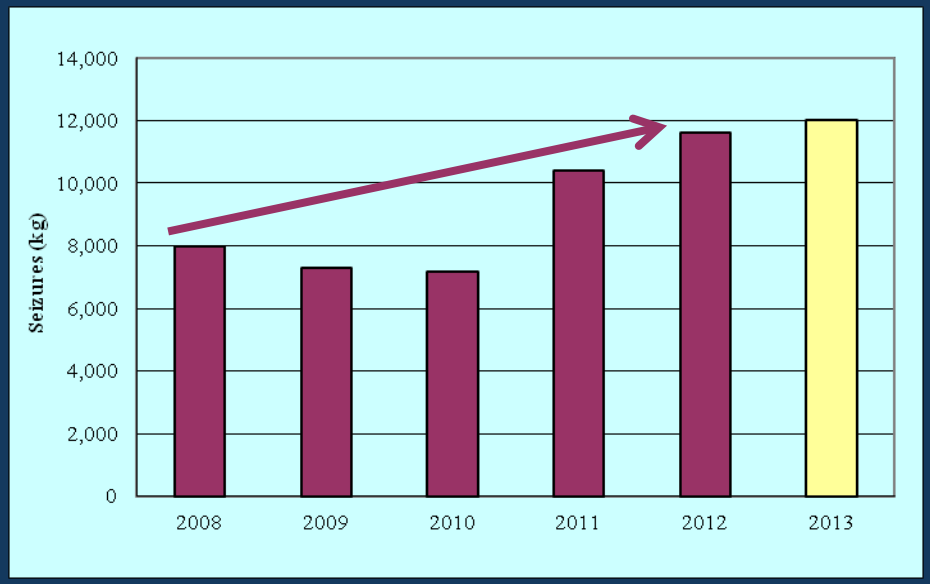
Copyright: AFP

- August 2014, 2.4 million 'ecstasy' pills seized off coast of Myanmar, containing methamphetamine

Source: SMART media monitoring

Crystal methamphetamine and seizures in E/SE Asia (2008 – 2013*) and use trend (2012)

Highest seizure total in past decade



Source: DAINAP

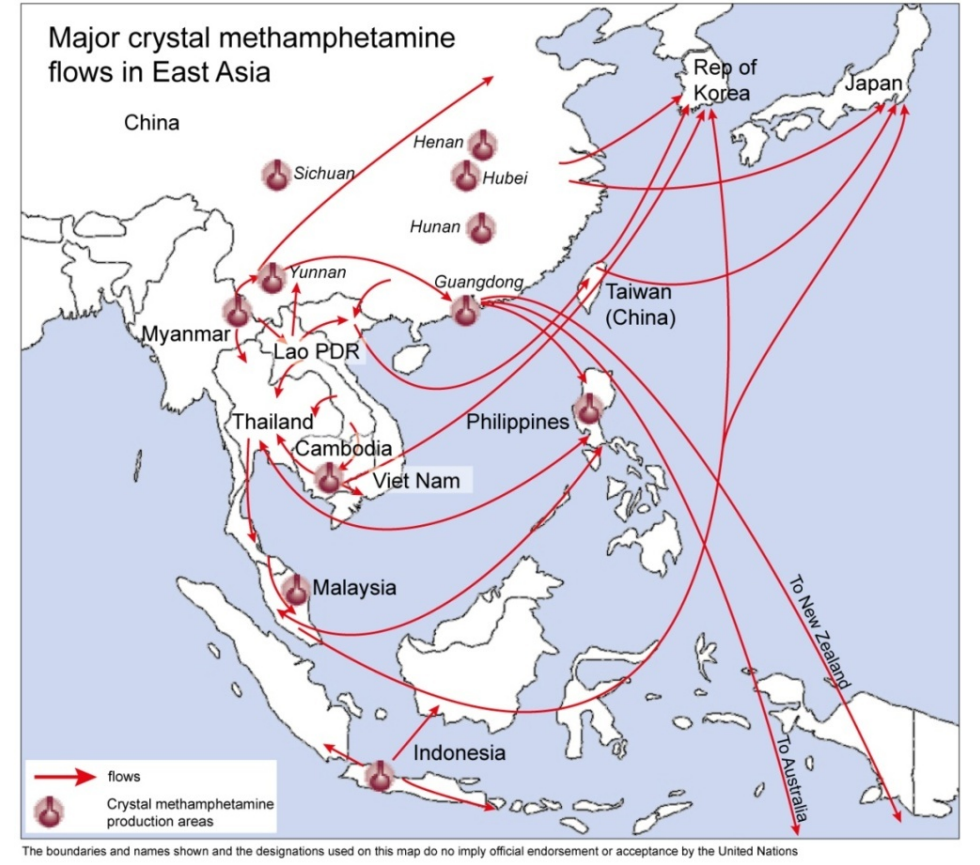
Source: DAINAP

- 2008: total seizures 8 tons
- 2012: total seizures 11.6 tons
- 2013: the estimated total seizures 12 tons

** Data for 2013 are preliminary and likely to revise to a higher number*

Crystal methamphetamine flows in E/SE Asia

Increasing crystal methamphetamine trafficking & consumption in the region

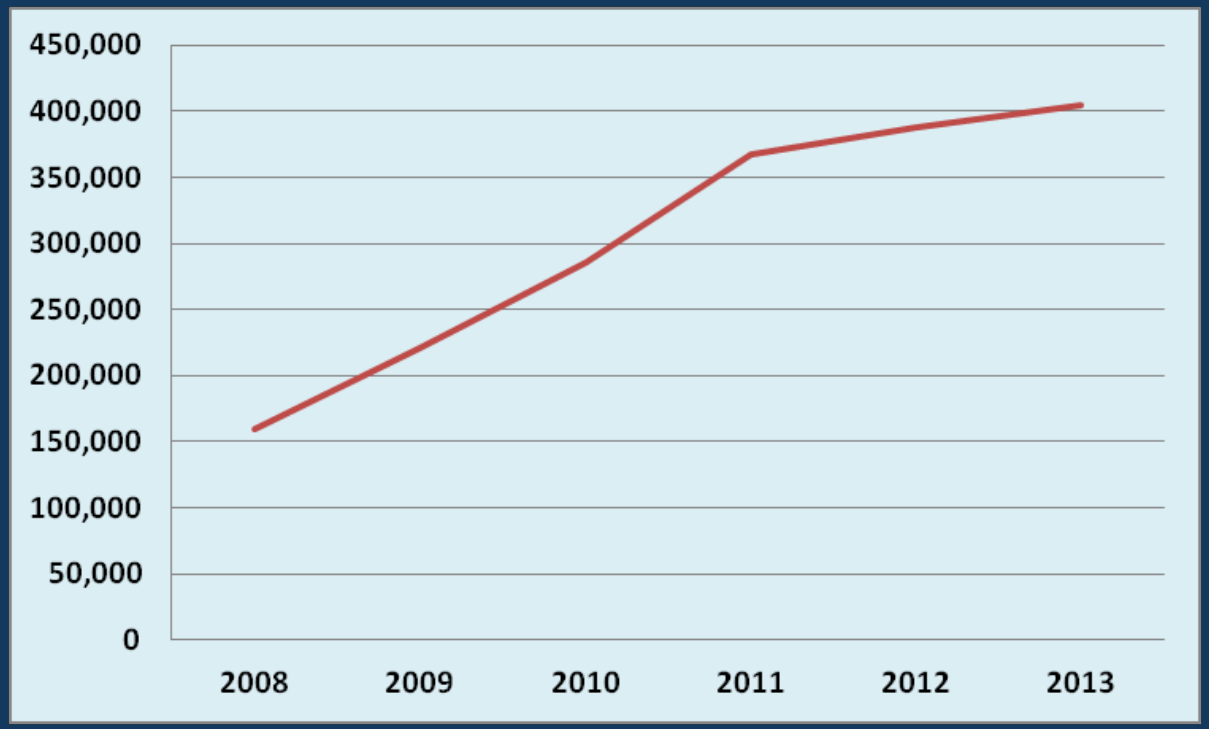


- February 2014, 183 kg of crystal meth hidden in kayaks shipped by shipping container from China was found in Australia.

Source: SMART media monitoring

Methamphetamine-related arrests in E/SE* Asia 2008 - 2013**

Highest total ever reported in 2012



- 2008: approximate total arrests160,000
- 2012: approximate total arrests 388,000
- 2013: approximate total arrests 400,050

** Does not include Cambodia, Philippines, and Viet Nam which do not produce disaggregated data*

*** Data for 2013 are preliminary and likely to revise to a higher number*

Increasing synthetic drug production in E/SE Asia

Continuous expansion of ATS manufacture

	2006	2012	2013
ATS labs busted in E/SE Asia	**83**	**385**	**360+**

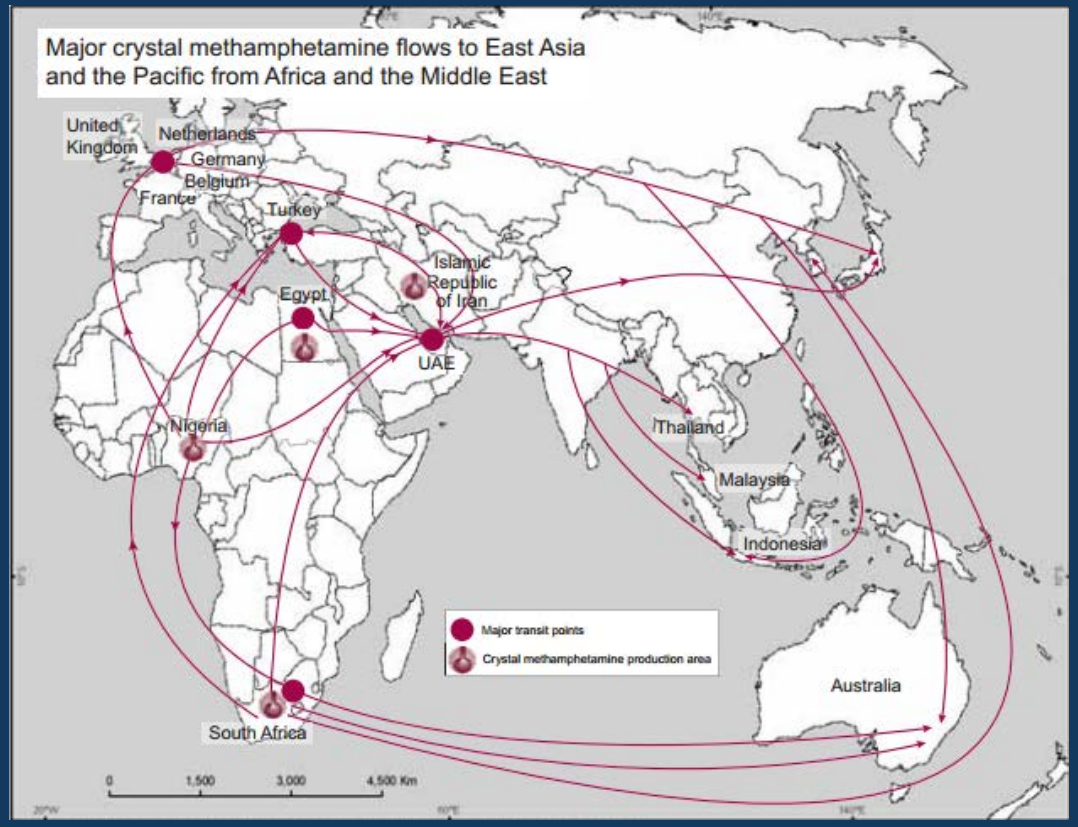
Source: UNODC

5-FOLD INCREASE

- Arrest of 182 suspects in Lufeng, South China's Guangdong Province
- Seized 2,925 kgs of meth and 260 kgs of ketamine, along with over 100 tons of raw materials (Dec, 2013)

International drug trafficking syndicate activities

West Africa



- Nearly 67 kg of crystal meth that was flown from Nigeria by air cargo seized in Malaysia (April, 2014)

Source: SMART media monitoring

International drug trafficking syndicate activities

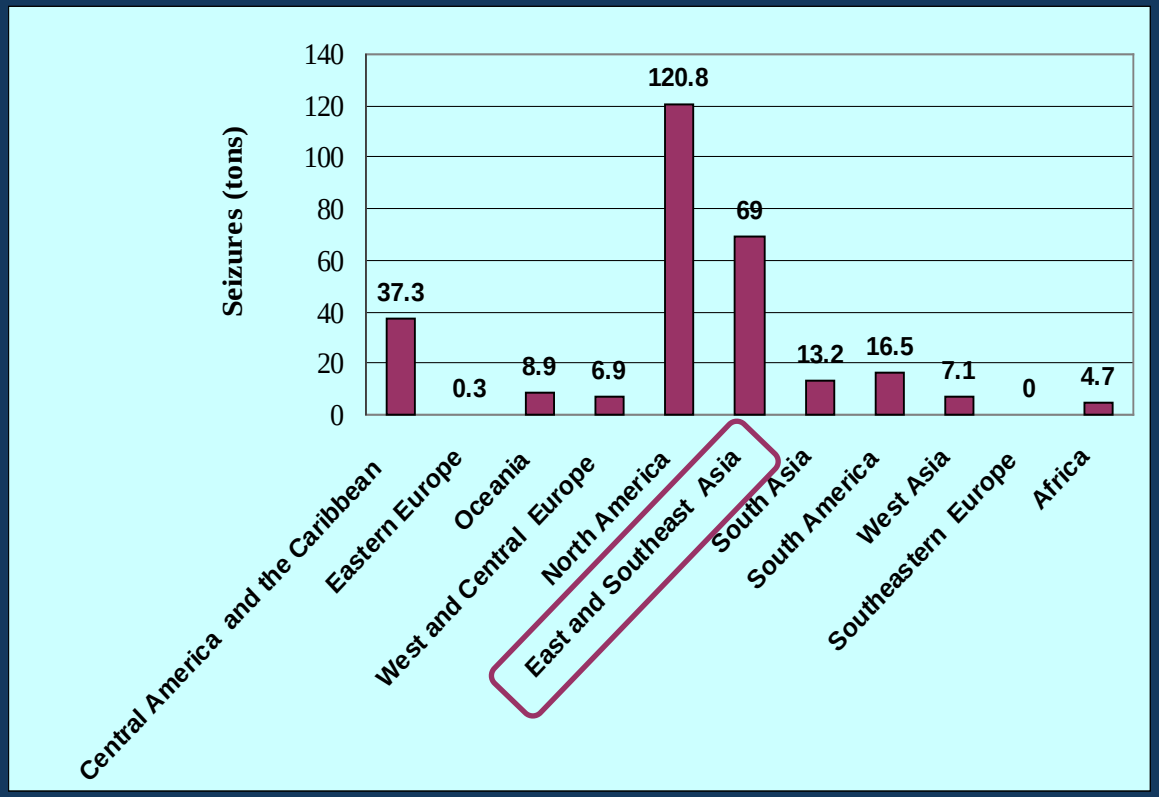
West Asia

- Arrest of 2 Iranians in West Java. Indonesia (Feb 2014).
- Seized 60kg of crystal meth which was believed to be shipped from Iran.

Source: SMART media monitoring

Ephedrine and pseudoephedrine flows (2008-2012)

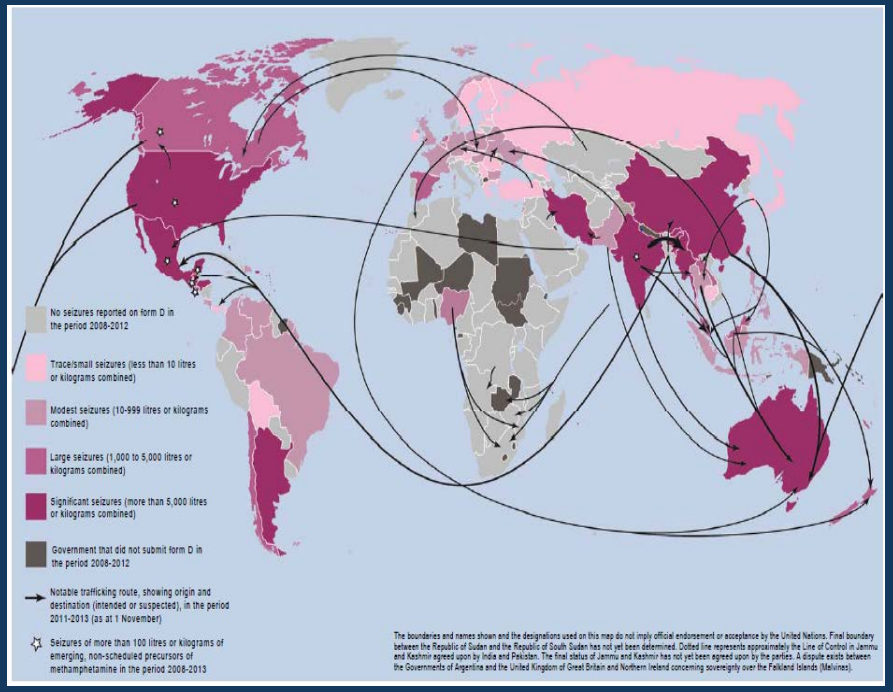
E/SE Asia the second largest after North-America



Source: International Narcotics Control Board, Precursors Report, 2013 (and previous years).

Major ephedrine and pseudoephedrine flows at the global level (2008-2012)

E/SE Asia remains as the origins in illicit trafficking of ephedrine and Pseudoephedrine in the region and in Oceania



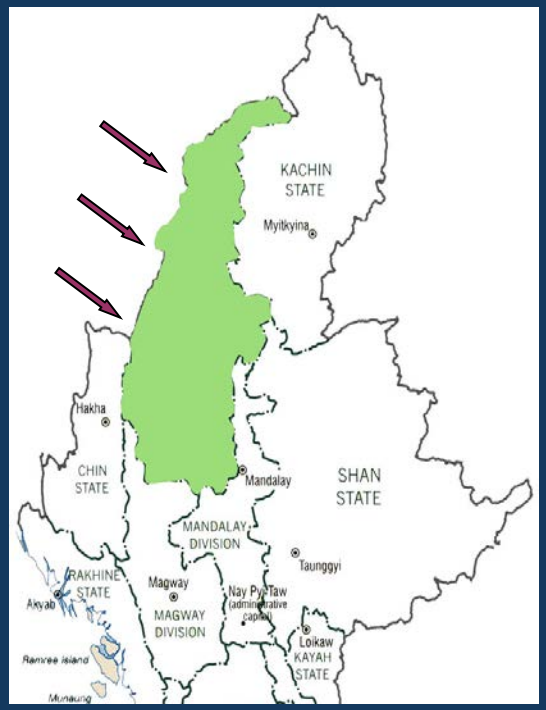
Source: International Narcotics Control Board, Precursors Report, 2013 (and previous years).

- In May 2014, 57 kg of ephedrine and pseudoephedrine originating from China seized in Australia.

Source: Australia Customs and Border Protection Services

International drug trafficking syndicate activities

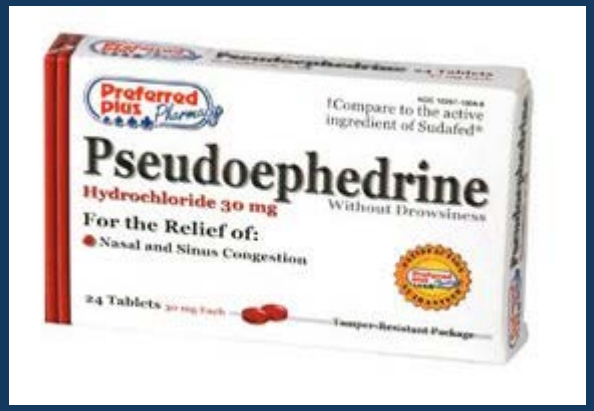
South Asia



Pseudoephedrine seized in India-Myanmar border (2011-2013)

	2011	2012	2013
Pseudoephedrine (Million tabs)	10.55	47.11	28.13

Source: CCDAC



- In April, 190 kg of pseudoephedrine seized in India at the border with Myanmar

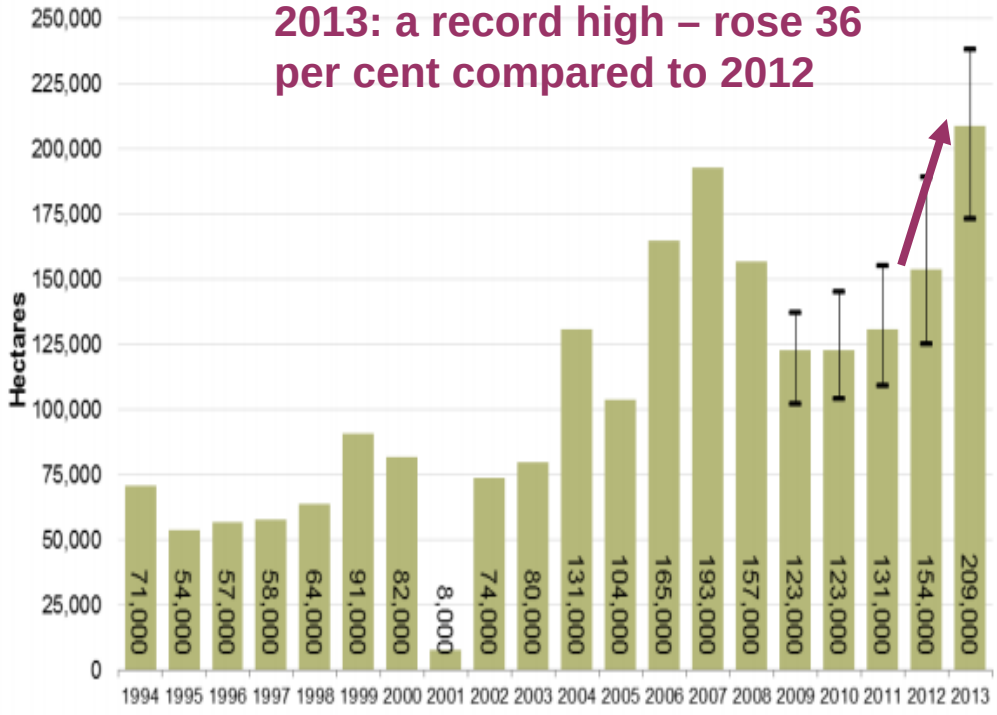
Source: SMART media monitoring

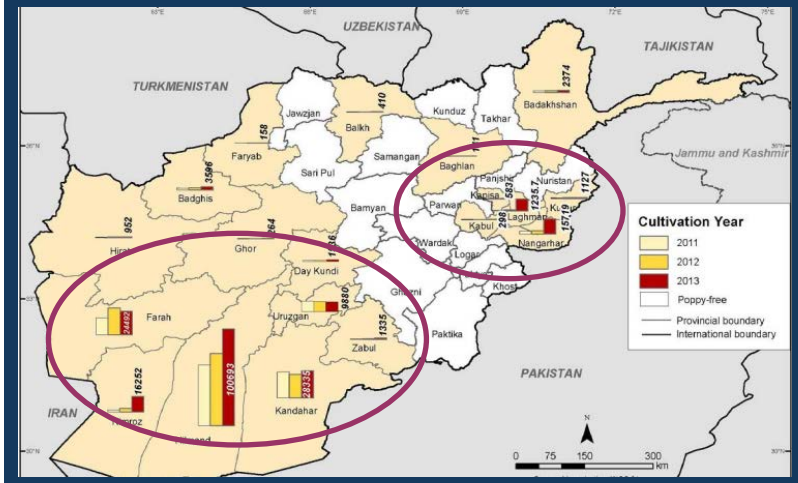
Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan

Link between insecurity and opium cultivation

Figure 1: Opium cultivation in Afghanistan, 1994-2013 (Hectares)

2013: a record high – rose 36 per cent compared to 2012



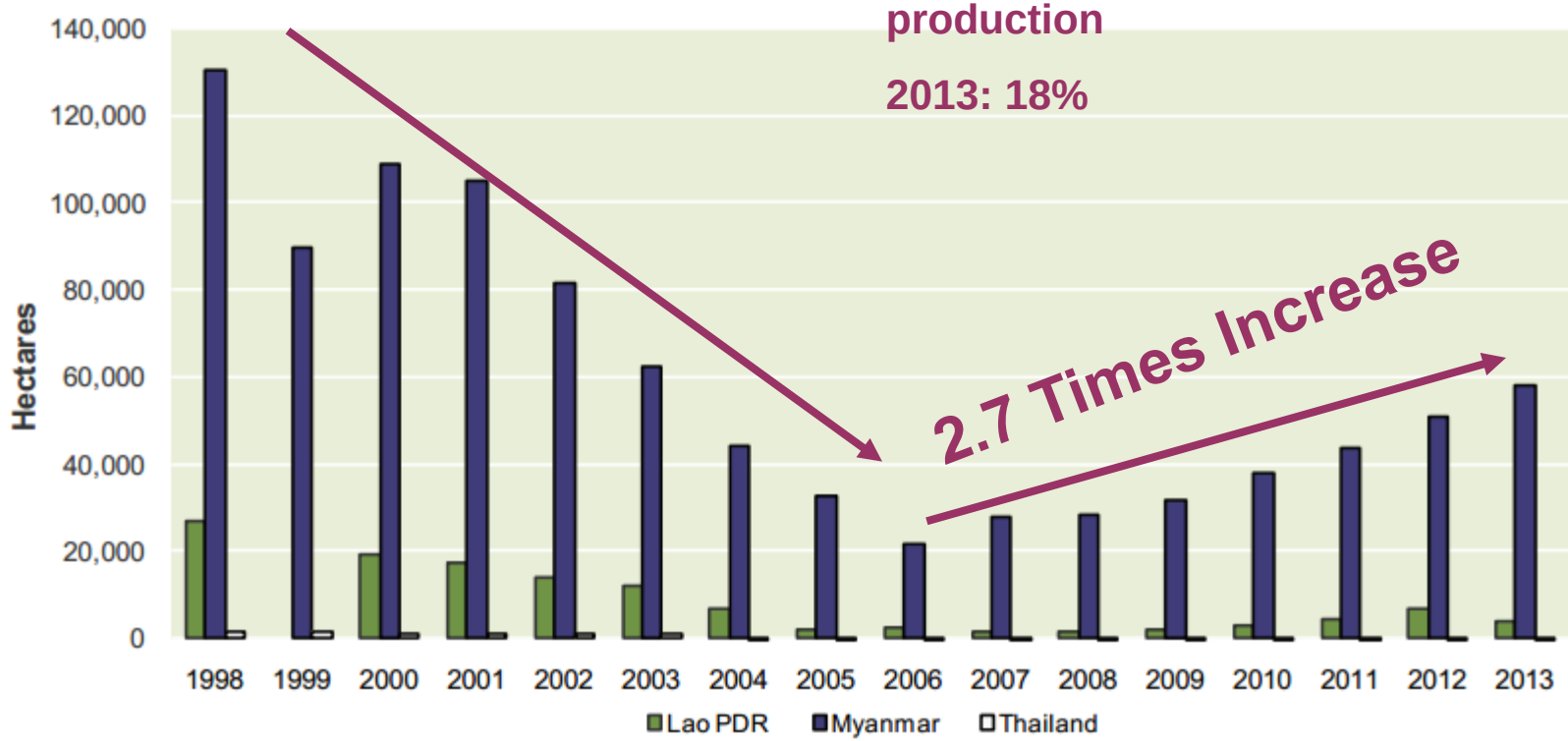


Source: UNODC

Opium poppy cultivation in Southeast Asia

Resurgence of opium poppy cultivation in the last eight years

Figure 1: Opium poppy cultivation in South-East Asia, 1998-2013 (Hectares)

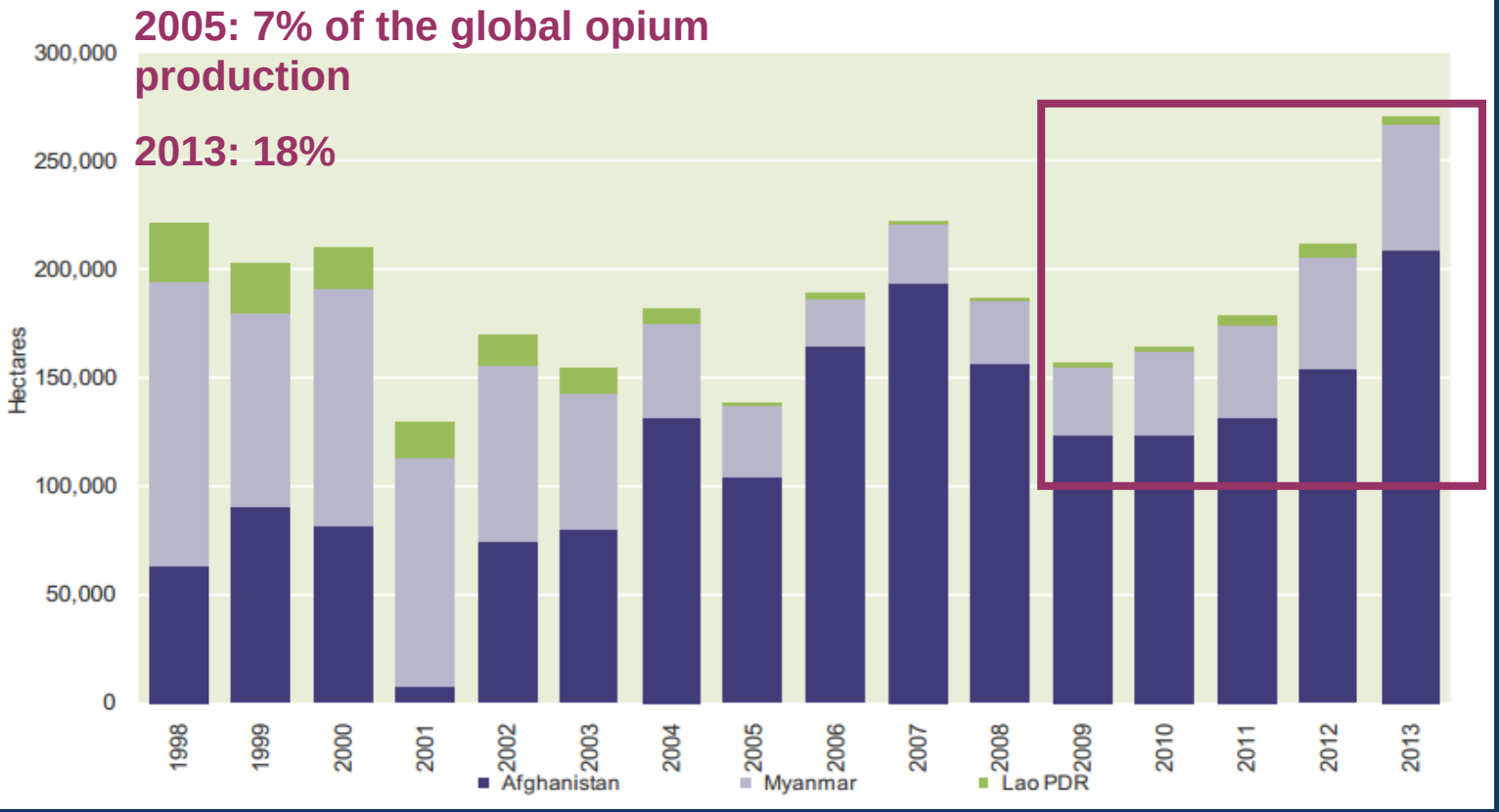


Source: UNODC SEA Opium Survey 2013

Opium poppy cultivation - global comparisons

Increased share of global opium poppy production

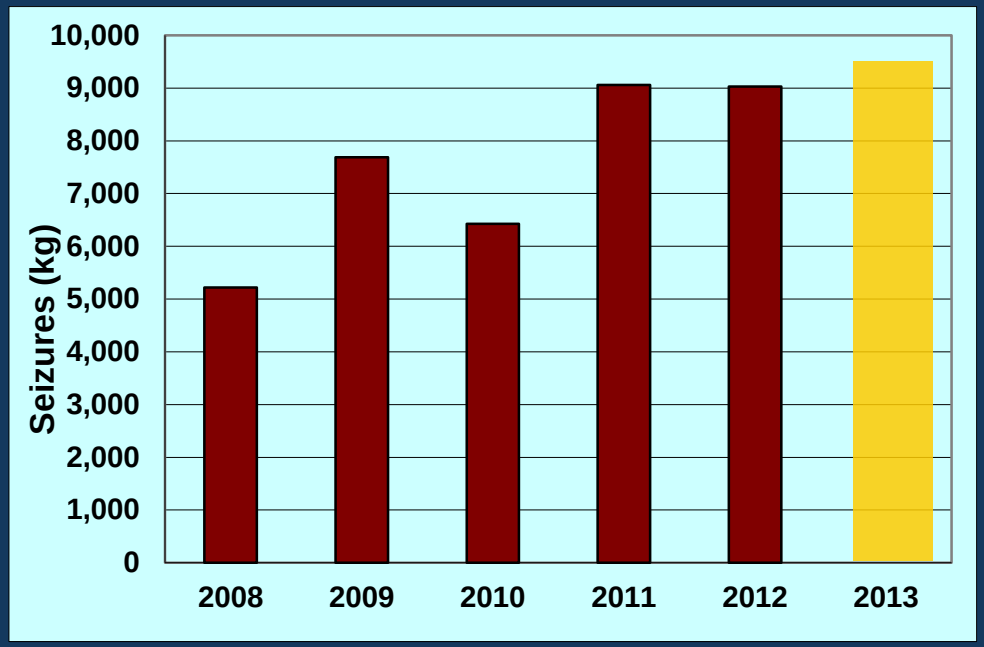
Figure 2: Opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan, Myanmar and Lao PDR, 1998-2013 (Hectares)



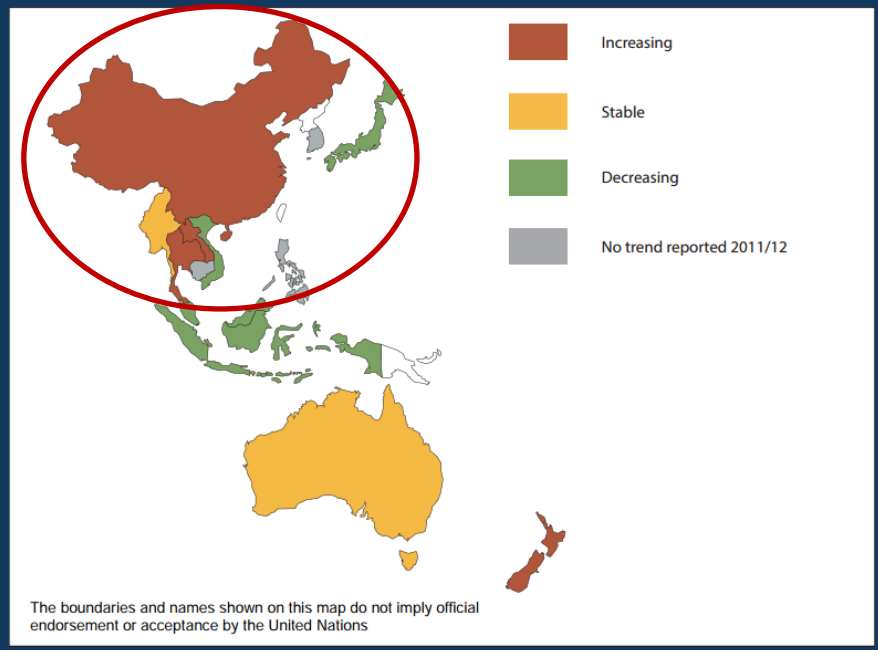
Source: UNODC

Heroin seizures in E/SE Asia (2008 – 2013*) and use trend (2012)

Factor behind the resurgence of the Golden Triangle



Source: DAINAP



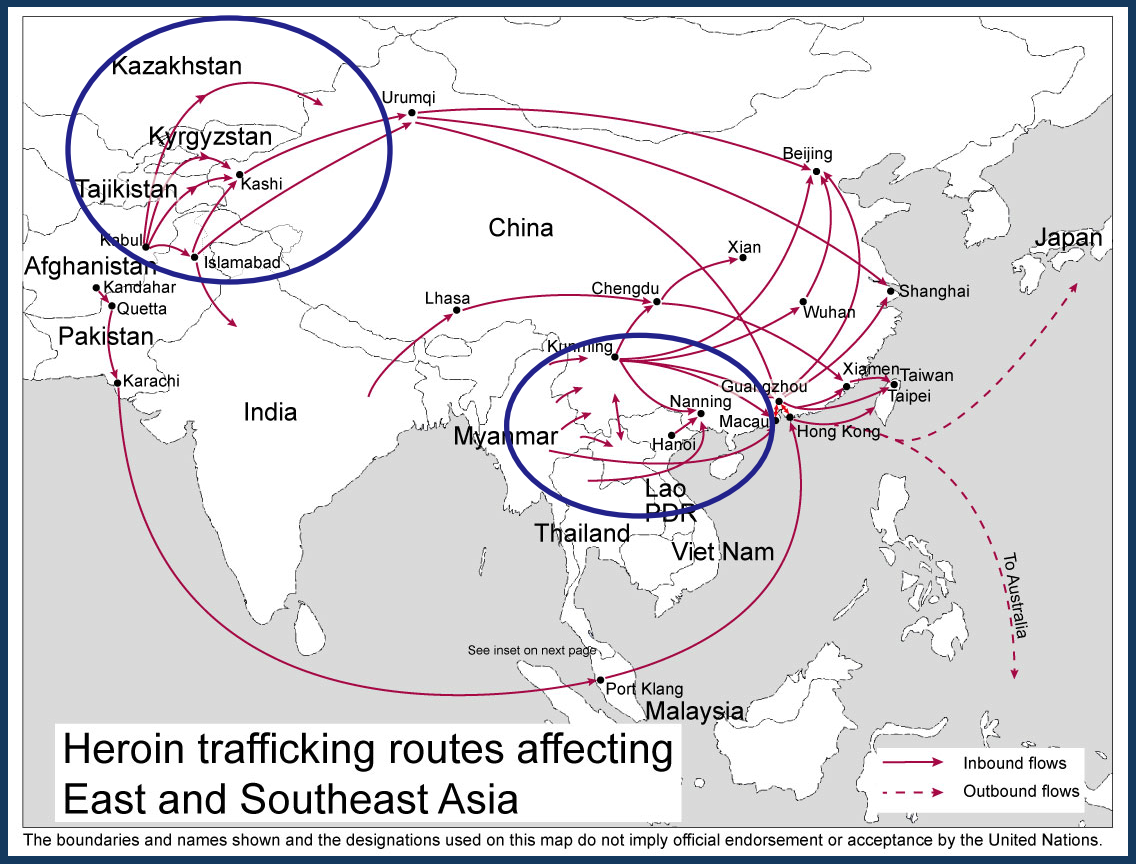
Source: DAINAP

- 2008: total seizures 5.2 tons
- 2012: total seizures 9.0 tons
- 2013: the estimated total seizures 9.5 to 10 tons

** Data for 2013 are preliminary and likely to revise to a higher number*

Heroin trafficking routes affecting Asia

The Golden Triangle heroin + Afghanistan heroin



Source: UNODC

- 147 kg of heroin seized in Ranong, Thailand in March 2014. The seized heroin thought to be from Myanmar and was destined to Australia by refrigerated container.

Source: SMART media monitoring

Cocaine seizures in E/SEA (2008 – 2012)

Cocaine gaining ground with links to drug cartels in other regions

- 2008: approximately 630 kg
- 2012: approximately 877 kg

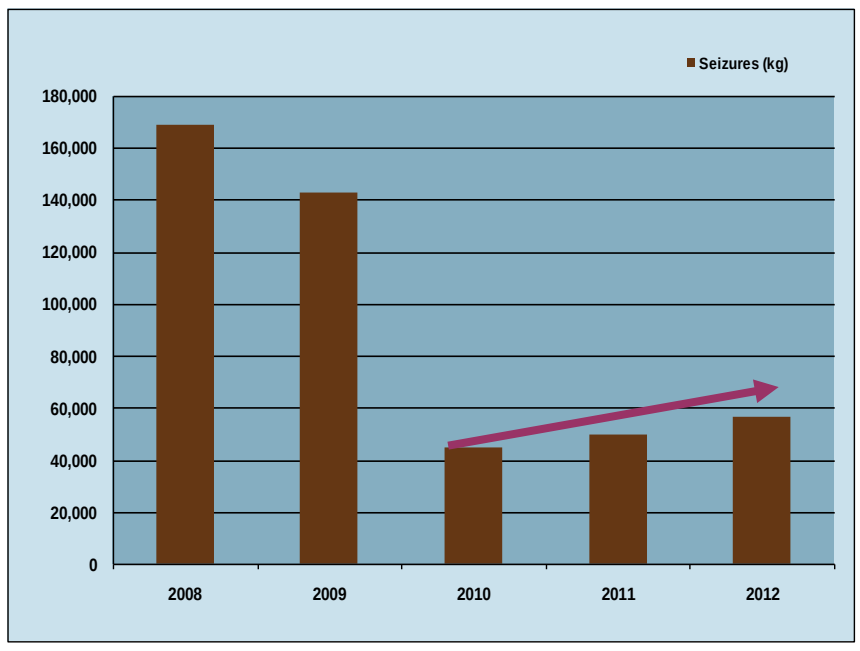
Source: DAINAP

• Approximately 69 kg of cocaine originating from Hong Kong found in the roof of a refrigerated sea container seized in Davao, the Philippines in March 2014.

Source: SMART media monitoring

Cannabis seizures in E/SE Asia (2008 – 2012)

Remains as one of major illicit drugs in the region



Source: DAINAP

- 2011: 50 tons
- 2012: 57 tons

- Approximately 5.6 tonnes of cannabis was seized in Thailand (April 2014)

- The seized cannabis was believed to be cultivated in Lao PDR and was destined to the Netherlands by sea cargo.

Source: SMART media monitoring

New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) in East Asia and the Pacific

Rapidly expanding NPS markets throughout the region

Fig. 15: Total number of NPS reports to UNODC in East and South-East Asia, Oceania and the Pacific (2008-2013)

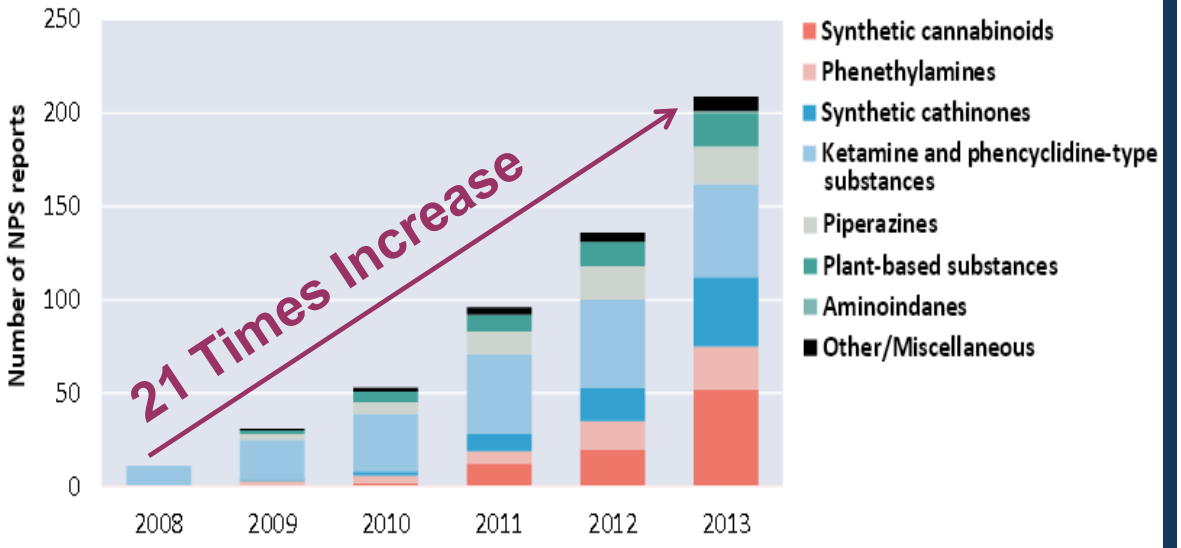
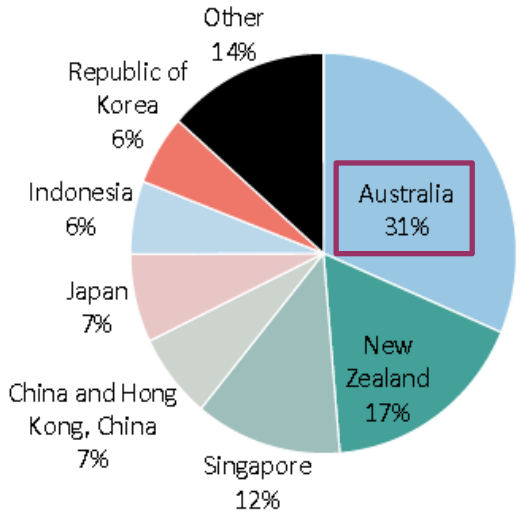


Fig. 16: Total number of NPS reports to UNODC in East and South-East Asia, Oceania and the Pacific, by country, 2008-2013

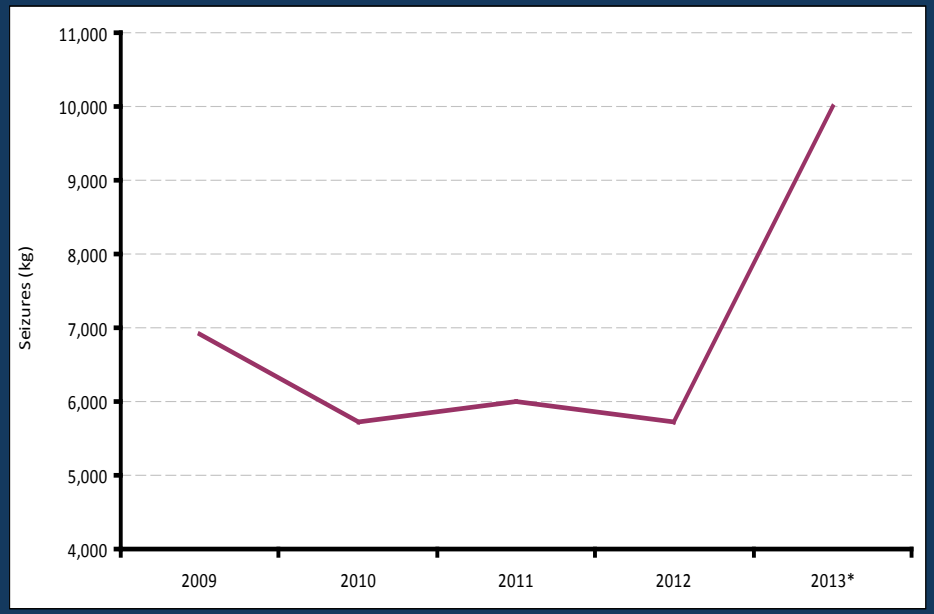


- 2008: 11 types
- 2013: 230 types

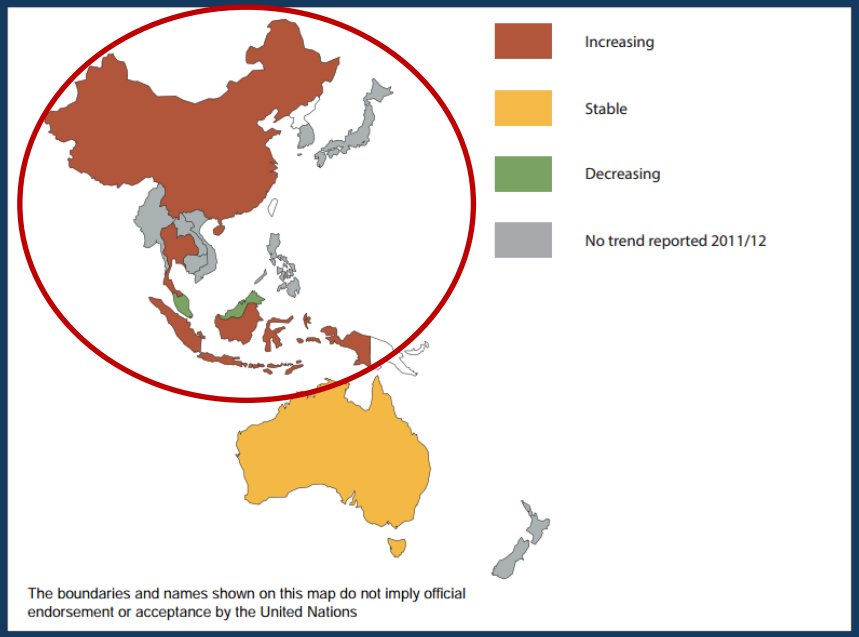
Source: UNODC 2014 Global Synthetic Drugs Assessment

Ketamine seizures in E/SE Asia (2008 – 2013) and use trend (2012)

Not immune from threats posed by NPS particularly ketamine



Source: DAINAP



Source: DAINAP

- 2011: Total seizures 6.2 tons
- 2012: Total seizures 5.7 tons
- 2013: Approximately 10 tons

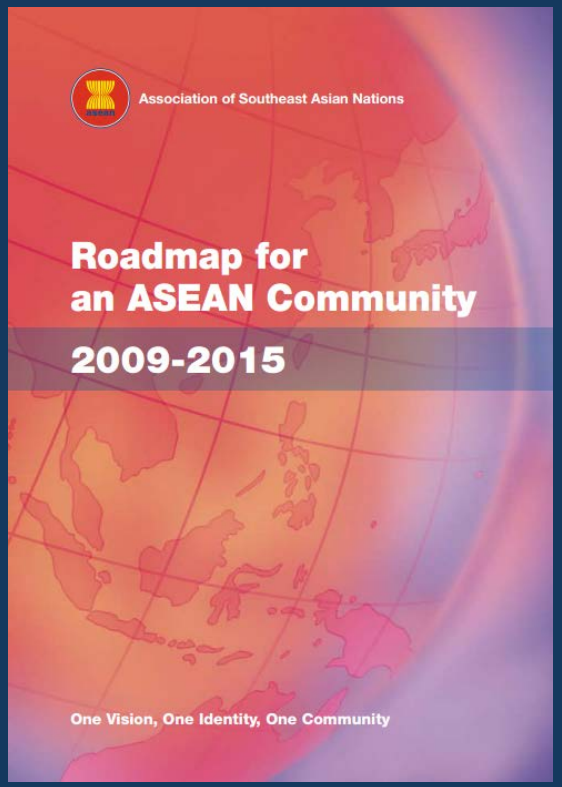
Presentation structure

- Situation assessments by drug type
- Looking over the horizon
- Regional Programme for Southeast Asia (2014-2017)

ASEAN Community 2015

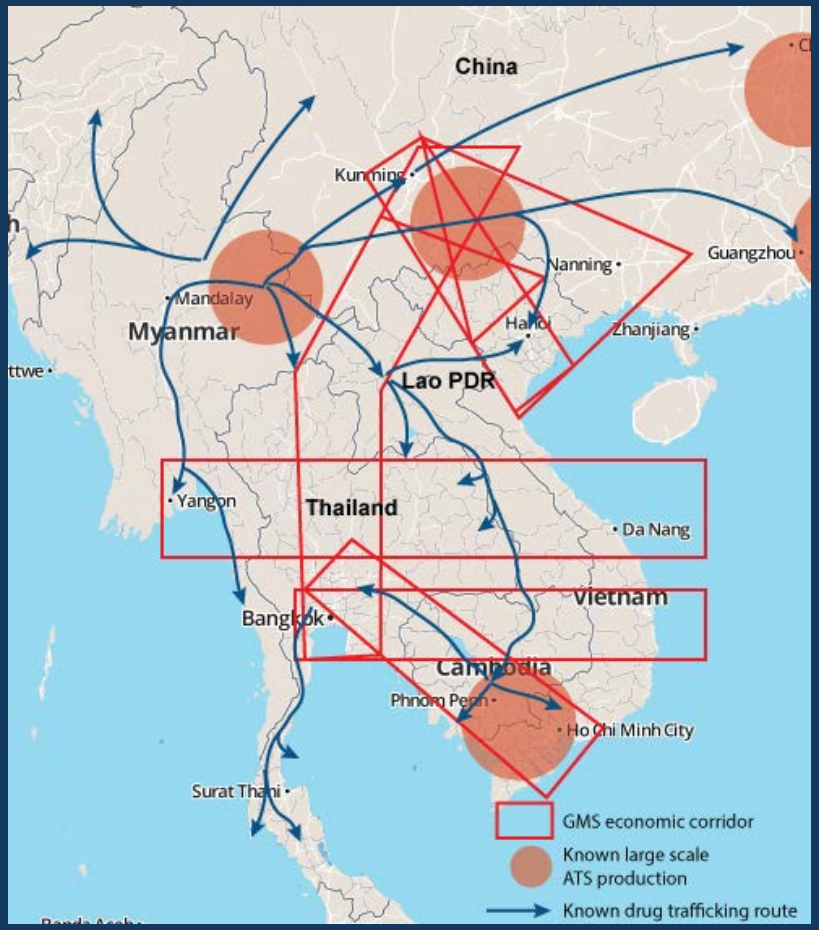
Growth comes at cost

- The ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) 2015
  - Regional integration: Freer flows of goods, services, investment, capital, and labour
  - Likely increase of TOC and illicit trafficking coupled with rapid economic development and globalisation
  - Necessity of instituting and enhancing combating measures against TOC



Regional Connectivity; planning for the downside?

Intersection between major trafficking routes and economic corridors



Presentation structure

- Situation assessments by drug type
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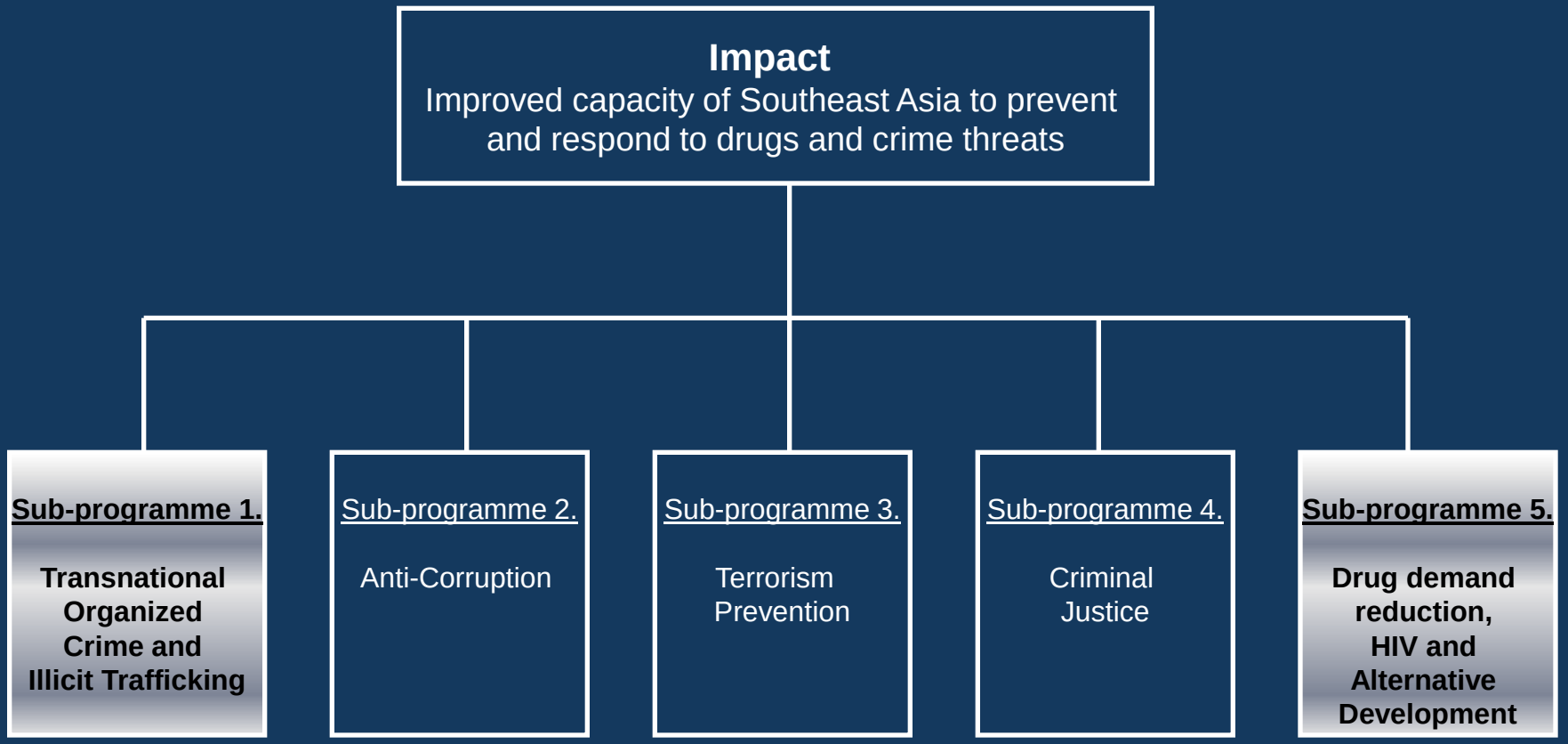
UNODC Regional Programme 2014 - 2017

Necessity – regional impact

- The first integrated regionalprogramme
- Rapid regional consolidation – need to support frameworks and networks that align with national responses
- Developed through extensive research and consultations

UNODC Regional Programme 2014 - 2017

Structure of the Regional Programme



Sub-Programme 1: Transnational Organised Crime and Illicit Trafficking outcome1.1 and outputs

Outcome 1.1: Drug and precursor trafficking

- Output 1: Strengthened systems developed for gathering information and developing intelligence on drug production and trafficking
- Output 2: Enhanced knowledge and skills developed to investigate and prosecute drug trafficking offences
- Output 3: Strengthened interdiction capacity developed along the main drug trafficking routes
- Output 4: Enhanced drug and precursor identification, profiling and information sharing capacities developed
- Output 5: Enhanced networks supported for cross-border and regional cooperation, including the Mekong Drug Control MOU mechanism

Sub-Programme 5: Drug demand reduction, HIV and Alternative Development

Outcome 5.1, 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4

- Outcome 5.1 (Drug use prevention): Member States increasingly implement evidence-based drug use prevention policies and programmes
- Outcome 5.2 (Drug use treatment and re-integration): Member States provide improved access to quality drug dependence treatment, rehabilitation, and social reintegration services
- Outcome 5.3 (HIV): Member States provide increased access to HIV prevention, treatment and care services among people who use drugs and prisoners
- Outcome 5.4 (Alternative development): Member States devleoped and implement alternative development policies and programmes in poppy growing areas

Thank you

Jeremy Douglas
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http://www.unodc.org/southeastasiaandpacific/