

# Amphetamine-type stimulants world-wide

The Global S.M.A.R.T. Programme:

Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends

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Side event at the Commission on Narcotic Drugs 10 March 2010



#### Focus: Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS)

**Two Groups:** (*i*) amphetamines-group substances include predominately amphetamine (including fake *Captagon*) methamphetamine – in various forms used different ways



Tableted methamphetamine (Yaba)



Crystalline Methamphetamine



Amphetamine (Captagon)

*(ii) Ecstasy-group* substances include MDMA (and its analogues) and substances containing or <u>thought</u> to contain MDMA – in various forms used different ways





Fake Ecstasy (BZP, ketamine, methamphetamine)



#### The Global S.M.A.R.T. Programme:

#### Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends



#### **Global SMART Programme**

# The need for action against amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS)

Beate Hammond, Global SMART Manager



# Illicit manufacture, trafficking and abuse of amphetamine-type stimulants

- a complex problem



# Illicit manufacture of ATS: Not dependent on cultivation of plant raw materials



# Cultivation of coca leaf restricted to one region





# Most of the world's opium and heroin is manufactured in a handful of countries





## ATS can be manufactured everywhere and continues to spread



#### Map 18: Member States reporting ATS-related manufacture\* since 1990

Source: UNODC, Annual Reports Questionnaire Data / DELTA; Government reports; UNODC, Global SMART Update 2009, Volume 1 (March); Amphetamines and Ecstasy: 2008 Global ATS Assessment (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XI.12).

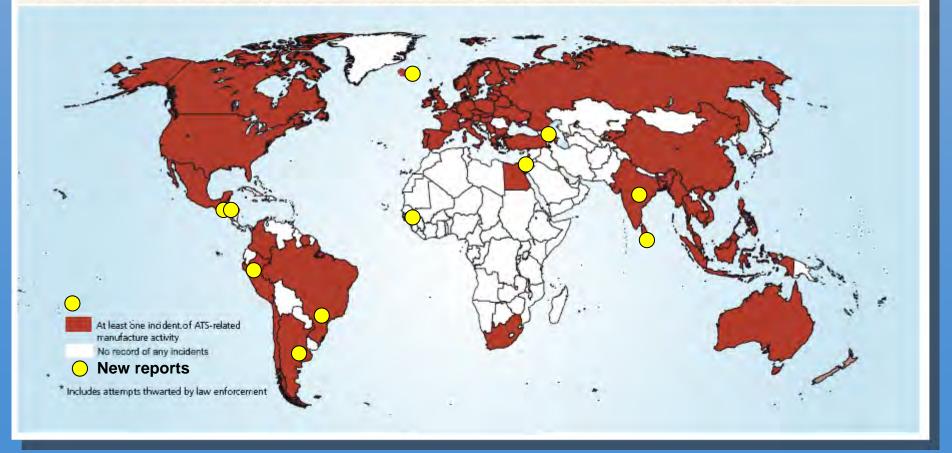




#### More than 60 Counties have reported manufactureincluding new often remote locations

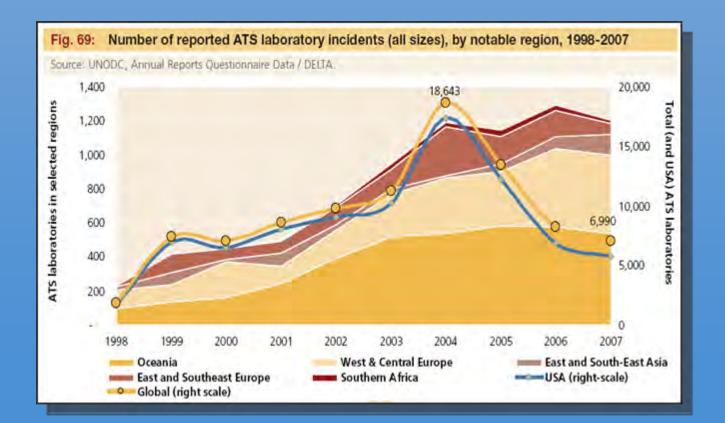
#### Map 18: Member States reporting ATS-related manufacture\* since 1990

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## The number of laboratories outside United States increases



#### Source: UNODC, World Drug Report 2009



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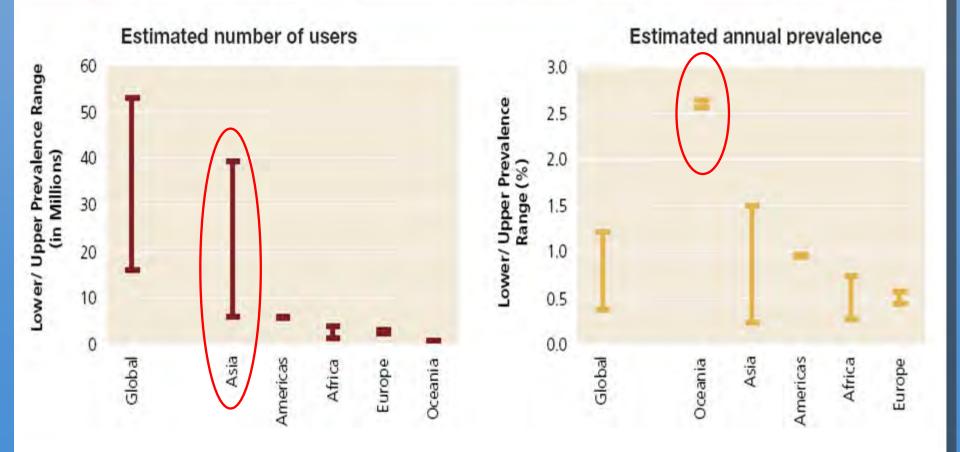
# ATS abusean under-recognized phenomenon



# Amphetamine users outnumber users of opiate and cocaine combined – between 15-51 million (last 12 months)

Fig. 102: Estimated amphetamines-group users in the past year by region, 2007

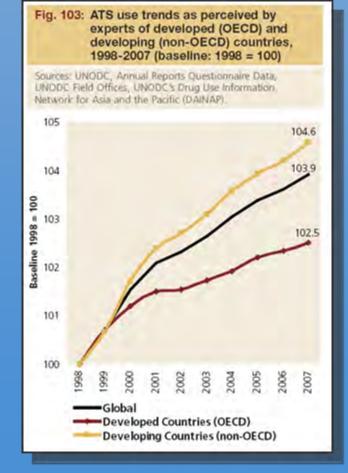
Sources: UNODC, Annual Reports Questionnaire; Government reports; reports of regional bodies; and UNODC estimates.





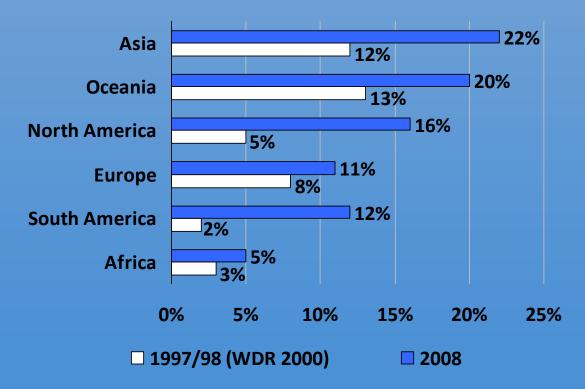
# Experts report use up in emerging economies

Amphetamines-group use trends in developed and developing countries 1998-2007





## ATS Treatment Demand\* Grows Globally



\*Unweighted per cent of total treatment, Annual Reports Questionnaires

## ATS an under-reported phenomenon



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## Reporting on ATS is a treaty obligation under the United Nations drug control Conventions



## Many Member States face significant difficulties gathering and using data: a problem of capacity



#### Reporting of Annual Report Questionnaires (ARQ) Part III, Illicit supply of drugs, for the year 2007





#### Very limited data available on ATS abuse

- Only 65 countries have an estimate in the past ten years of the prevalence of ATS use in the general population or among school/university-aged young people.
- Some very populous countries have no estimate at all
- This reduces the capacity to make evidence-based drug-control related decisions

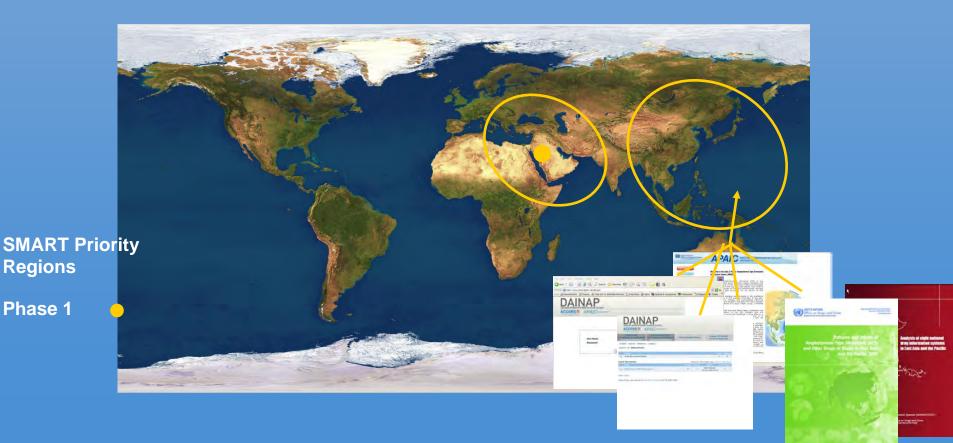


## Member States face considerable obstacles

- Lack of independent alternative data sources
- Lack of accurate/consistent reporting
- Outdated and incomplete data



#### SMART operations: strategic and flexible capacity building ready to scale-up





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#### Capacity building where and how it is needed

Ensuring and enhancing Information flow





## **Global SMART Programme: Implementation in East Asia**

Deepika Naruka, Regional Programme Coordinator (East Asia) Global SMART Programme



## **Structure of presentation**



• Overview – SMART in East Asia

Emerging concerns and case studies



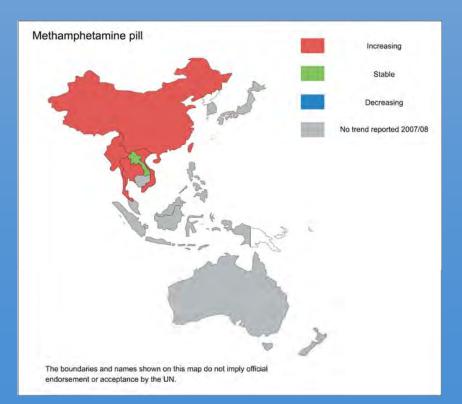
## **ATS trends in E/SE Asia**

## ATS USERS: approx ½ in East and SE Asia

 ATS SEIZURES: just under ½ global methamphetamine seizures in E/SE Asia



#### Methamphetamine pills: use trends (2004-2008)



#### **Use reported: 5 countries**

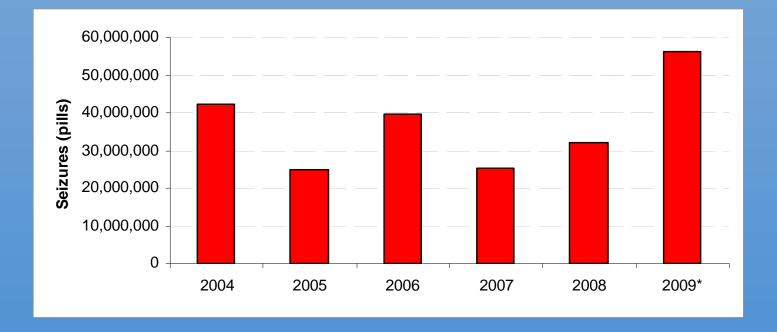
Increasing: 4 (China, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam)

Stable: 1 (Lao PDR (stable after an increasing trend for past five years)

#### Source: DAINAP



#### Methamphetamine pills: seizures (2004-2009\*)



\* **2009 data are preliminary and likely to be revised (likely increase).** Note: Seizures from Australia and New Zealand are not included.

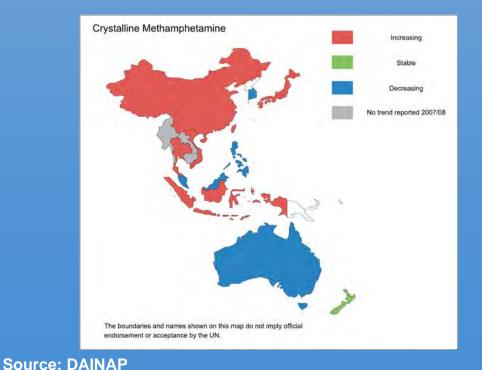
- 2008: Total seizures 32 million (approx.) (70% in Thailand)
- 2007-2008 Increasing (26%)

Source: DAINAP



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#### Crystalline methamphetamine: Use trend (2004-2008)



#### Use reported: 12 States Increasing: 6 China Indonesia

Japan Singapore Thailand Viet Nam

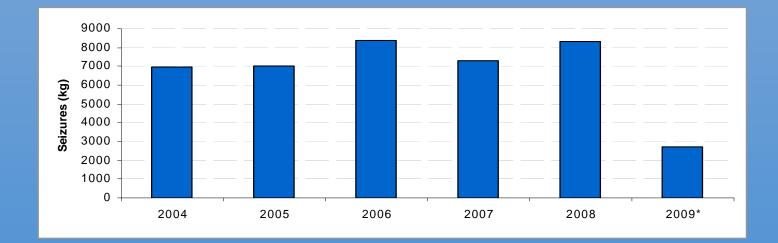
#### **Decreasing: 4**

Australia Malaysia Philippines Rep. of Korea

#### Stable: 2 Brunei Darussalam New Zealand



#### Crystalline meth seizures (2004-2008)



\* **2009 data are preliminary and will to be revised (likely increase).** Note: Seizures from Australia and New Zealand are not included.

- 2008: Total seizures 8.3 metric tons (approx.) (66% in China)
- 2007-2008 Increasing (13.7%)

**Source: DAINAP** 



#### UNODC Global S.M.A.R.T. Programme

The Global

Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends

Objective: Member States are able to make effective evidence based decisions to counter the problem of synthetic drugs

Outcome 1: Generate and manage information on ATS.

Outcome 2: Drug information <u>analysed</u> and reported on at national, regional and global level.

Outcome 3: ATS information is <u>used</u> by countries for evidence-based policy and strategic/ tactical interventions.



# Structure of presentationBackground

#### • Overview – SMART in East Asia

• Emerging concerns and case studies



## **SMART** priority regions



**SMART Priority** 

SMART Phase 1 support



Australia



Japan



Rep. of Korea



New Zealand

Thailand

Brunei Cambodia China Indonesia Lao PDR Malaysia Myanmar Philippines Singapore Thailand Viet Nam



## **SMART** mechanisms

# Analysis and reporting - data with integrity



1. Data collection

- On-going drug data collection through the Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific
- 4. Dissemination of data

Project report - Patterns and Trends in ATS and Other Drugs of Abuse in East Asia and the Pacific

Clearinghouse - www.apaic.org

Workshops and annual meetings



3. Analysis

Analysis of verified data by the project team



2. Data integrity process

Review II -

Cross-checking with

using official reports.

studies and media

secondary sources and

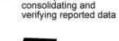
identifying discrepancies

presentations, web-sites,



Review I - Identifying data entry errors and reporting gaps by cross-checking earlier data and between data sets







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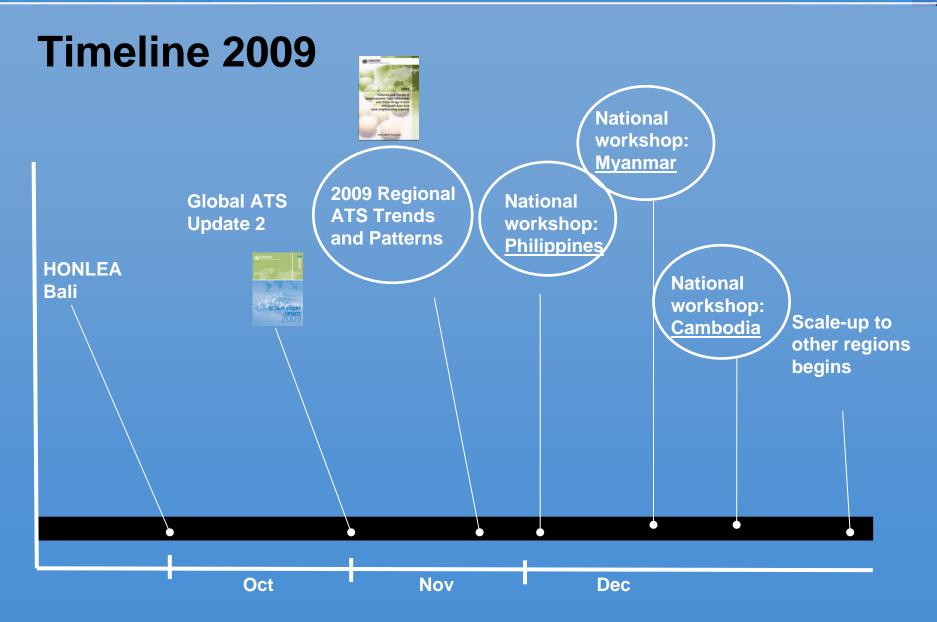
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### **Timeline 2009**



2008







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# Workshop outcomes – identification of needs





## Law enforcement

## Health and treatment

Forensics



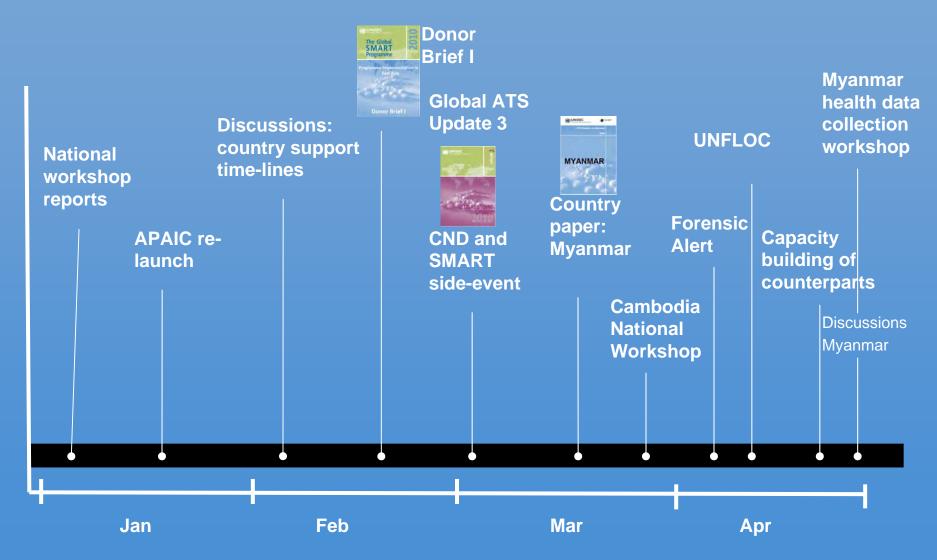
# Timeline 2010

Data collection and analysis	
Data integrity process	
Discussions with focal agencies	ocountry
Capacity building TOTs, CBTs and Consultations	
Regional report a briefs	and National
Participatory pro consultations	gramme development : Regional Workshop: National meetings: e

**Ongoing activities** 



# Timeline 2010: Jan - Apr





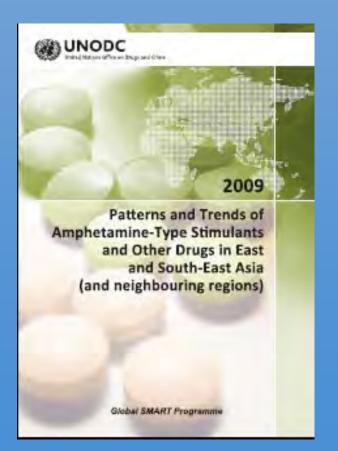
# **Structure of presentation**

• Background

Overview – SMART in East Asia

• Emerging concerns and case studies





## **Detailed assessment:**

East and South-East Asia

## **Overviews**:

- South Asia
- The Pacific Island States

## Country reports: 15

**Published: November 2009** 



# **Emerging Concerns**

- Diversification of manufacturing trends
- **Development Infrastructure**
- Impact of internal security governance
- Emergence of new markets
- Drug-crime-environment linkages
- Health impact treatment, IDU-HIV risk
- Data limitations



# **Emerging Concerns**

# **DEVELOPMENT - INFRASTRUCTURE**

• Transportation and economic liberalization in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS).

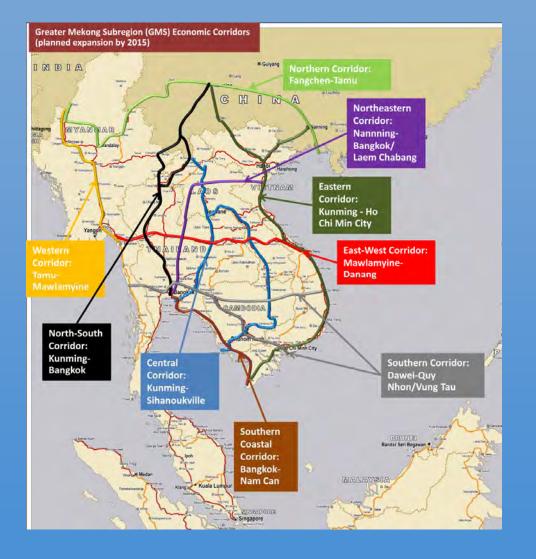


## Infrastructure and trade liberalization

## What are the driving factors?

- Export oriented growth strategies
- Inter-regional competitive pressure
- Trade liberalization
- Poverty reduction Millennium development goals





GMS Economic Corridors Expansion plans 2008-2015

- Economic liberalization and trade facilitation
- Greater volumes
- Containerization
- Export oriented growth strategies
- Inter-regional competitive pressure
- Trade liberalization
- Poverty reduction MDGs



#### Asian Highway Project





Infrastructure Development and Implications for Illicit Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Subregion - An Emerging Challenge

#### Infrastructure and trade liberalization

Challenges to be addressed:

- considerable increase in the volume of cross-border cargo and persons over the next decade
- fewer and simplified border inspections, exemption of goods in transit, simplified visa procedures and exchange of traffic rights
- heavy industrialization of towns and villages along transport arteries
- both positive and negative aspects of industrialization illicit drugs strain on local government and police



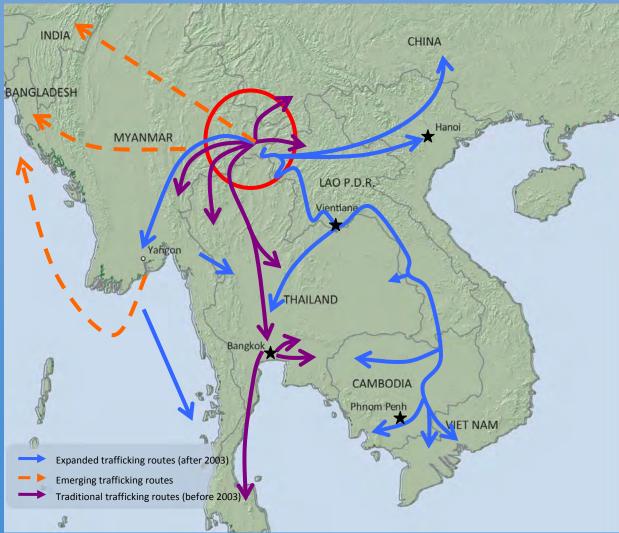
# IMPACT OF INTERNAL SECURITY -GOVERNANCE

• Myanmar: Increased movement of drugs across the border.



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#### **MYANMAR:** Increased movement of drugs across the border.



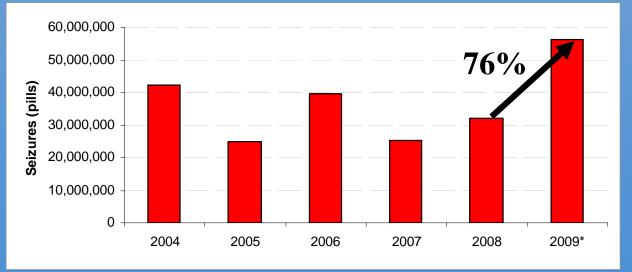
Political situation in Myanmar: push factor for illicit drugs and relocation of manufacturing sites across Myanmar/ Thailand/ Lao PDR border

Source: Global ATS Assessment 2008, UNODC, SMART (East Asia) Workshop 2009 and CCDAC



# MYANMAR: Increased movement of drugs across the border.

## Indicators: Increasing seizures of methamphetamine pills in Myanmar and neighbouring countries in 2009



\* 2009 data are preliminary and consists of Myanmar, China and Thailand only.

2009: 56.15 million pills seized in Myanmar and its two neighbours. The seizure in 2009 is predicted to double the seizure in 2008.

Source: DAINAP



# **Emerging Concerns**

# **EMERGENCE OF NEW MARKETS:**

- Indonesia established ATS market.
- Malaysia geographically next door following the pattern of Indonesia?
- Viet Nam potential major market.



#### Sabah, Malaysia 2001

#### Kulim, Malaysia July 2006



Changing size and sophistication of clandestine operations



#### Seizure of 978 kg crystalline meth in Rompin, Malaysia, May 2009



Source: Royal Malaysian Police



#### VIET NAM:

- Potential major market for ATS expansion.
- Meth manufacturers seeking new markets
- Close to established manufacturing areas and trafficking routes
- Large and increasingly affluent population
- Increased trafficking of crystalline methamphetamine



#### VIET NAM:

• Potential major market for ATS expansion.

#### ATS use trend in Viet Nam, 2003 - 2008

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Source: DAINAP						

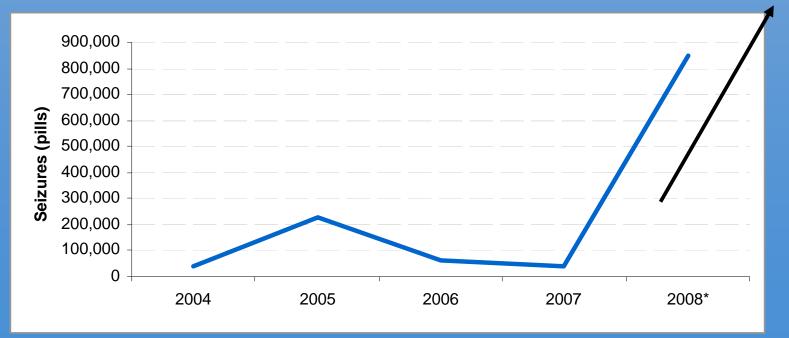
Source: DAINAP



#### VIET NAM:

• Potential major market for ATS expansion.

# Increasing seizures of methamphetamine pills, 2004-2008



**Source: DAINAP** 



# **Emerging Concerns**

# DRUG-CRIME-ENVIRONMENT LINKAGES

• Safrole-rich oils in Cambodia.



#### SAFROLE-RICH OILS

## LICIT USE

- Fragrance and perfume industry
- Pesticide and insecticide
- Traditional medicine
- Food and soft drinks

Also used in the manufacture of the illicit drug MDMA (Ecstasy)







#### SAFROLE-RICH OILS

- Major environmental impact (both forest depletion and pollution when chemicals destroyed)
- Can be used as precursor for ecstasy manufacture
- Cambodia: 35 tonnes of safrole-rich oil seized in 2008; similar trend in first half of 2009



Source: 2008 UNODC and Forest Research Institute Malaysia; ADLOMICO Cambodia presentation, Oct 2009; media reports in 2009



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## Global SMART Update Incident or Trend? Regions and Issues to Watch

Matthew Nice, Research Expert



Global SMART Programme

## Global SMART Update Incident or Trend? Regions and Issues to Watch



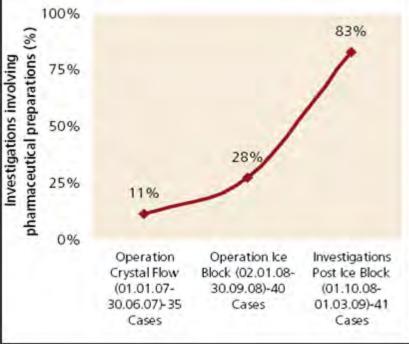


### Incident or trend: Changes in the Americas



Proportion of methamphetamine backtrack investigations involving pharmaceutical preparations as the chemical precursors for methamphetamine

Source: International Narcotics Control Board, Trafficking in Pharmaceutical Preparations for the Illicit Manufacture of ATS, presented at the 52nd Commission on Narcotic Drugs (March 17, 2009, Vienna).



June 2009 Sinaloa Mexico– 49,640 lt of pseudoephedrine containing cough syrup



### Incident or trend: Changes in the Americas

- March 2009, 8.5 tons of phenylacetic acid (PAA) seized
- October 2009, Mexico seizes 17 tons of 2-phenylacetamide and 20 tons of sodium phenyl acetate
- P-2-P based product quality lower, but tartaric acid is being used to improve potency





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## Incident or trend: Changes in the Americas

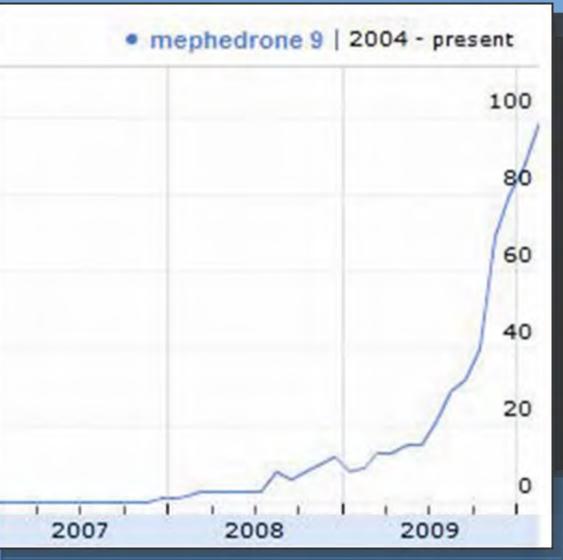


Source: Policía Nacional de Nicaragua



## Incident or trend: Changes in Europe

- In 2007 and 2008 there was no reported European seizures of the typical ecstasy precursor 3,4-MDP2P (PMK)
- Ecstasy (MDMA) tablets seized in Europe declining
- European "ecstasy" club drug products diversifying:
  - increasing piperazine content (particularly *m*-CPP)
  - fluoroamphetamine,
  - fluoromethcathinone,
  - methylmethcathinone (aka *mephedrone*)



Source: Google



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#### Incident or trend: Changes in Africa

- West Africa emerges as ecstasy manufacturer July 2009
- Multiple chemical sites in Guinea Conakry inspected jointly INTERPOL/ UNODC
- Reaction vessels and other equipment
- 5,390 lt of sassafras oil
- 80 lt 3,4-MDP-2-P
- Source of precursors? Destination of product?



Photos: UNODC

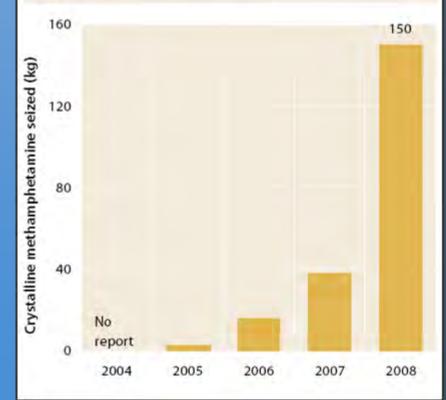


## Incident or trend: the Near and Middle East

- Iran (IR) reports multiple "home-made industrial" synthetic laboratories dismantled (October 2009)
- Seizures of methamphetamine rapidly increasing
- In 2008, 3.6% of drug users report using methamphetamine (none reported use in 2004/05)
- Price dropping rapidly
- 2009 report finds 2.4 metric tons of amphetamine and methamphetamine
- Multiple multi-kilo trafficking cases recently emerged from Iran: destination East Asia/ Pacific

#### Islamic Republic of Iran: seizure of crystalline methamphetamine, 2004-2008

Source: Policies Achievements Ongoing Programs and Future Plans, Islamic Republic of Iran, Drug Control Headquarters (Tehran, 2007); Drug Control in 2008: Annual report and rapid situation assessment. Islamic Republic of Iran, Drug Control Headquarters (Tehran, 2009); UNODC, Field Office Report (2005).





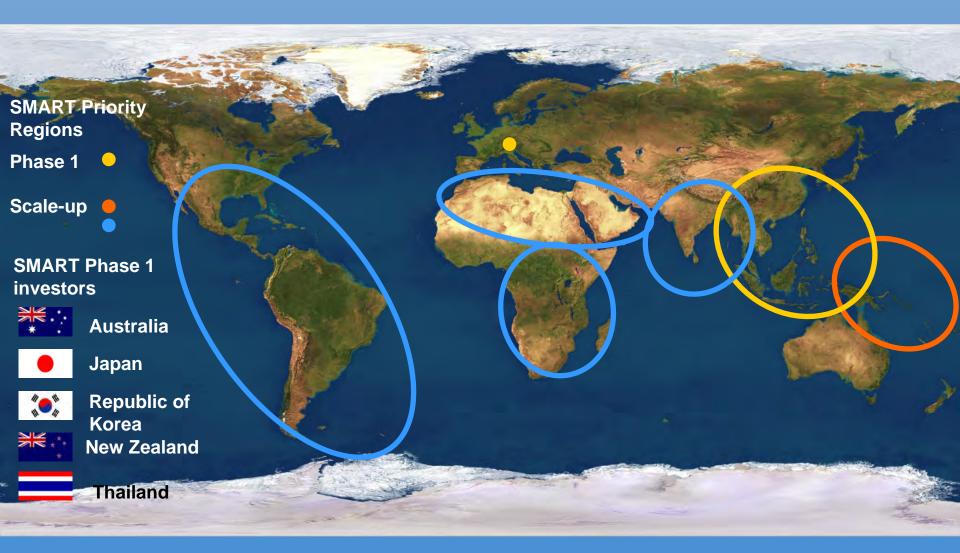
# Incident or trend: the Pacific Islands

- Polynesia growing trend of methamphetamine seizures
- Tonga seizes significant amount of methamphetamine
- Methamphetamine drug use high among students in the Pacific Islands





## SMART priority regions—targeted expansion





# Global SMART – some of the accomplishments to date

- Global ATS Assessment, September 2008
- Global SMART Update v1, March 2009
- SMART Advisory Group Meeting, March 2009
- Global SMART programme staffed, July 2009
- Regional East and South-East Asia Workshop, July 2009



# Global SMART – some of the accomplishments to date (contd.)

- Global SMART Update v2, October 2009
- East and South-East Asia Regional Report, November 2009
- Global SMART at the SYNDEC4 Conference, November 2009
- Global SMART Update v3, March 2010





# THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

For more information: www.apaic.org www.unodc.org GlobalSMART@unodc.org