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# Amphetamine-type stimulants world-wide

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

Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends

\*\*\*

*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 thought to contain MDMA – in various forms used different ways



**Ecstasy (MDMA)**



**Fake Ecstasy (BZP, ketamine, methamphetamine)**



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

*Synthetics Monitoring: Analysis, Reporting and Trends*



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# 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







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**ATS can be manufactured  
everywhere and continues to  
spread**



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

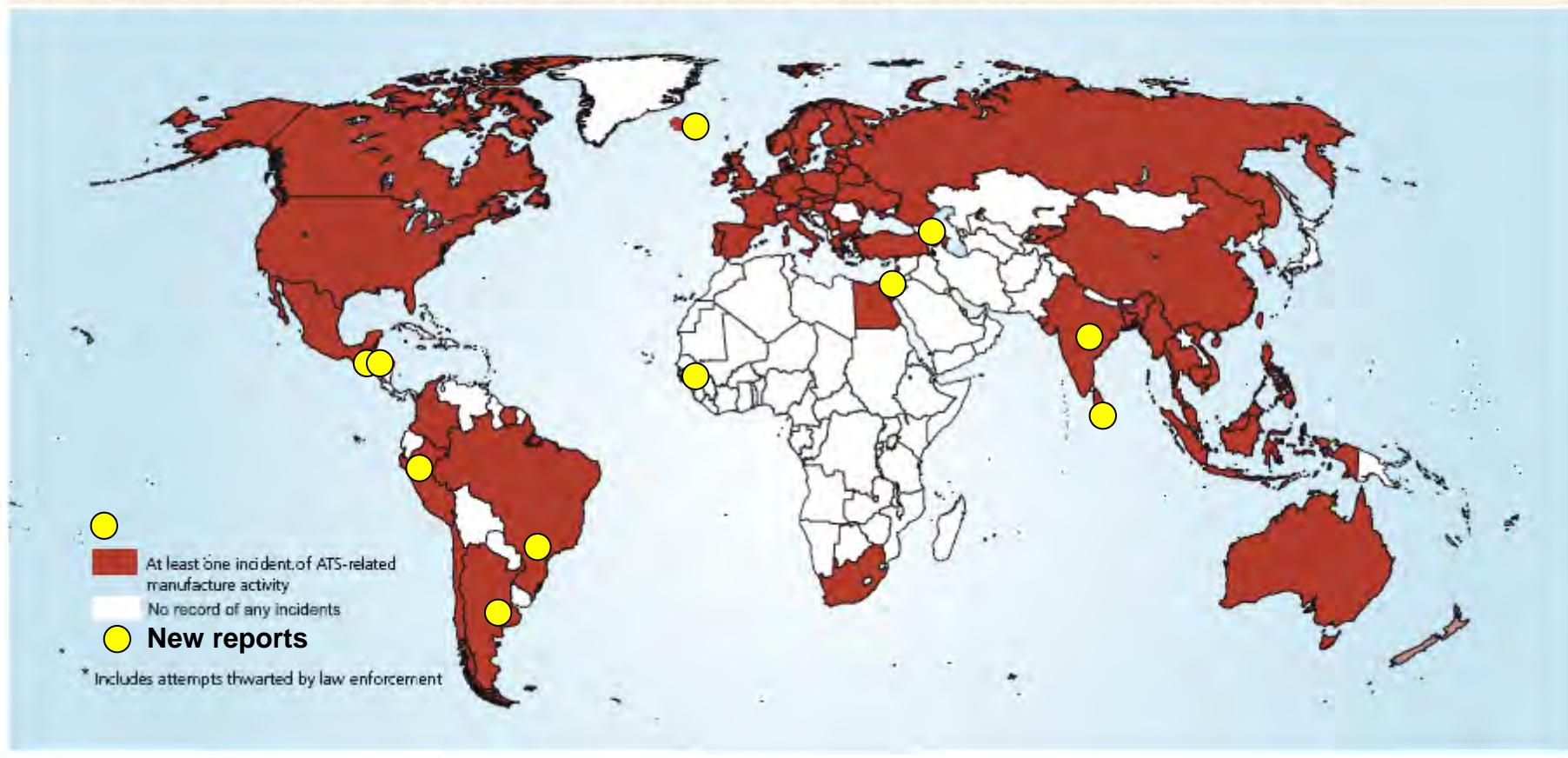
Source: UNODC, Annual Reports Questionnaire Data / DELTA; Government reports; UNODC, Global SMART Update 2009, Volume 1 (March); *Amphetamines and Ecstasy: 2008 Global ATS Assessment* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.08.XI.12).



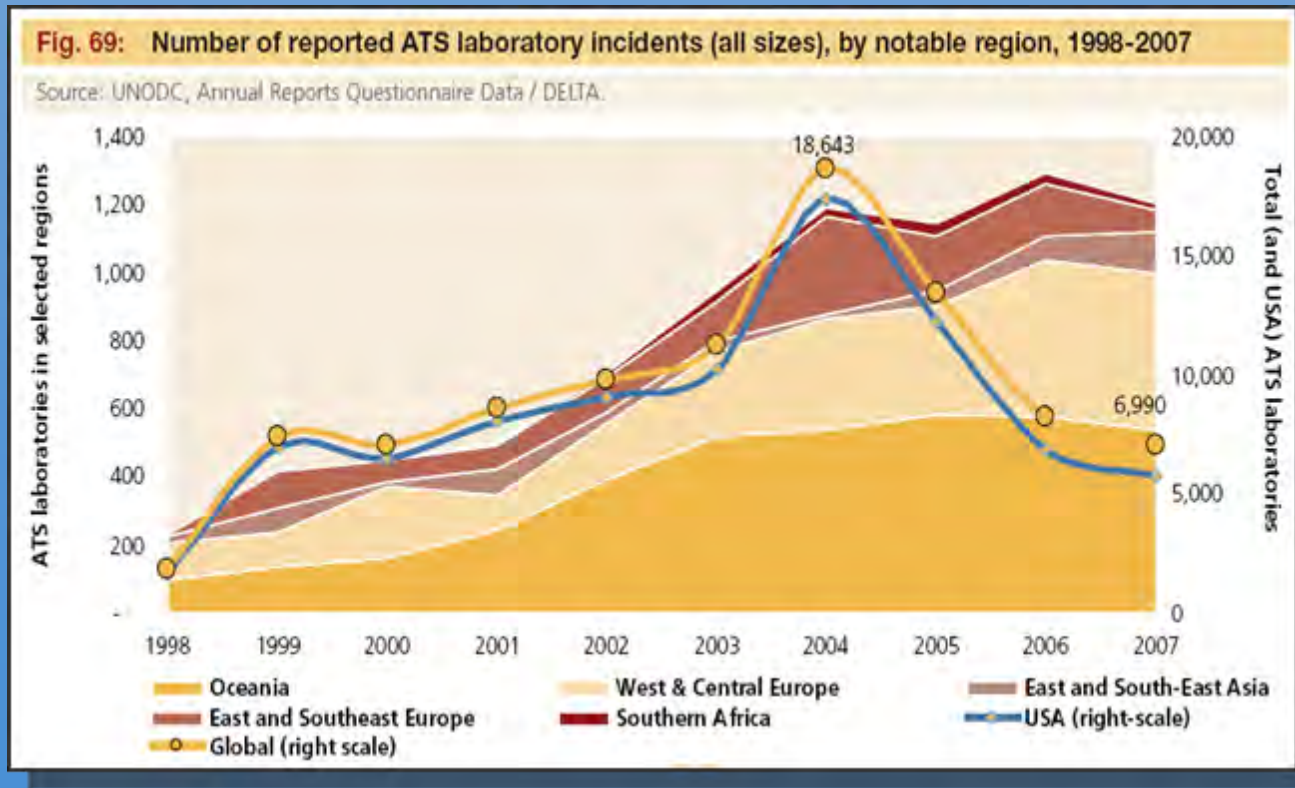
# More than 60 Countries have reported manufacture— including new often remote locations

**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).



# The number of laboratories outside United States increases





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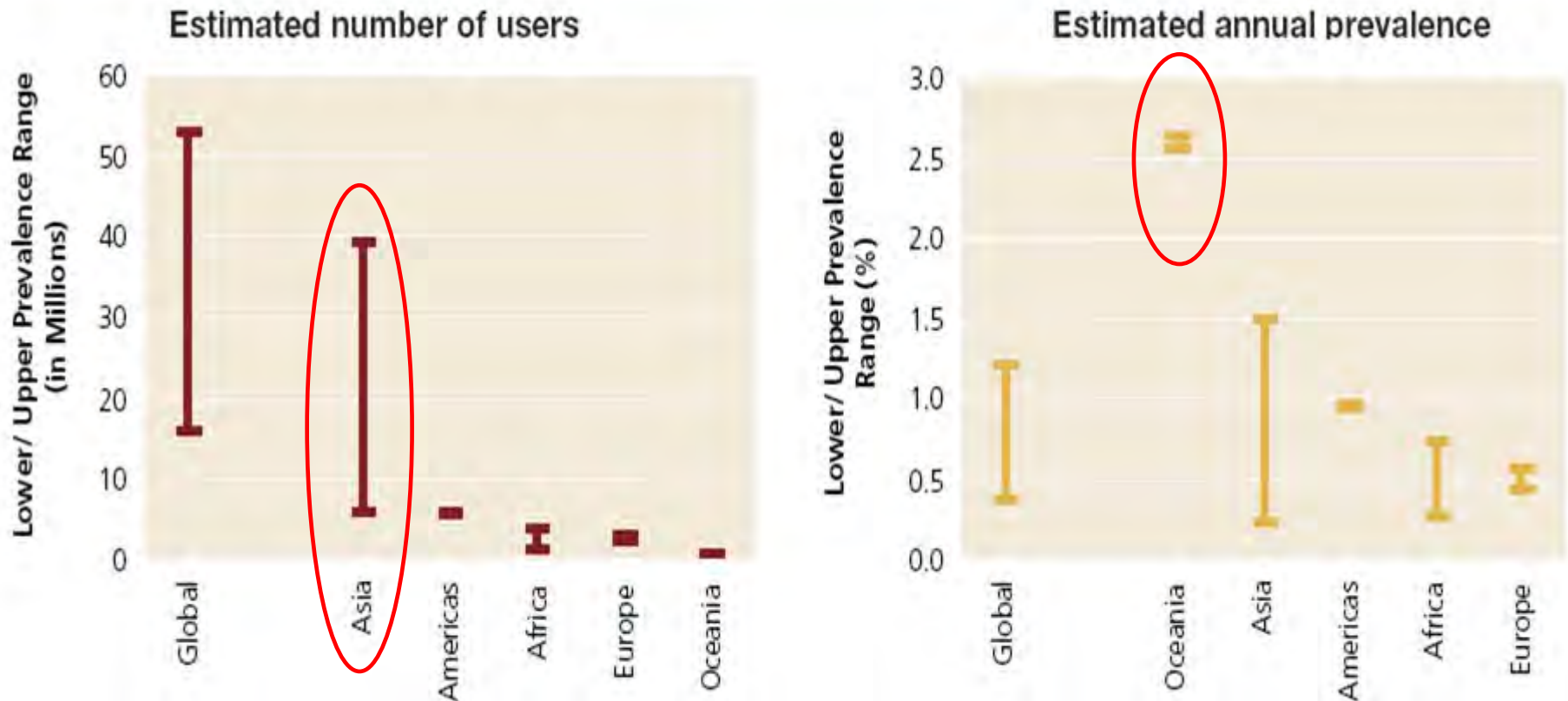
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# ATS abuse- an under-recognized phenomenon

# 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.



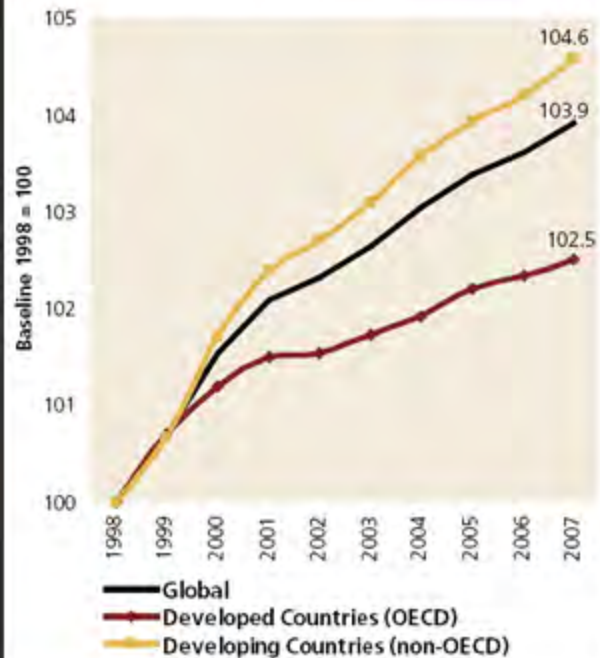


# Experts report use up in emerging economies

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

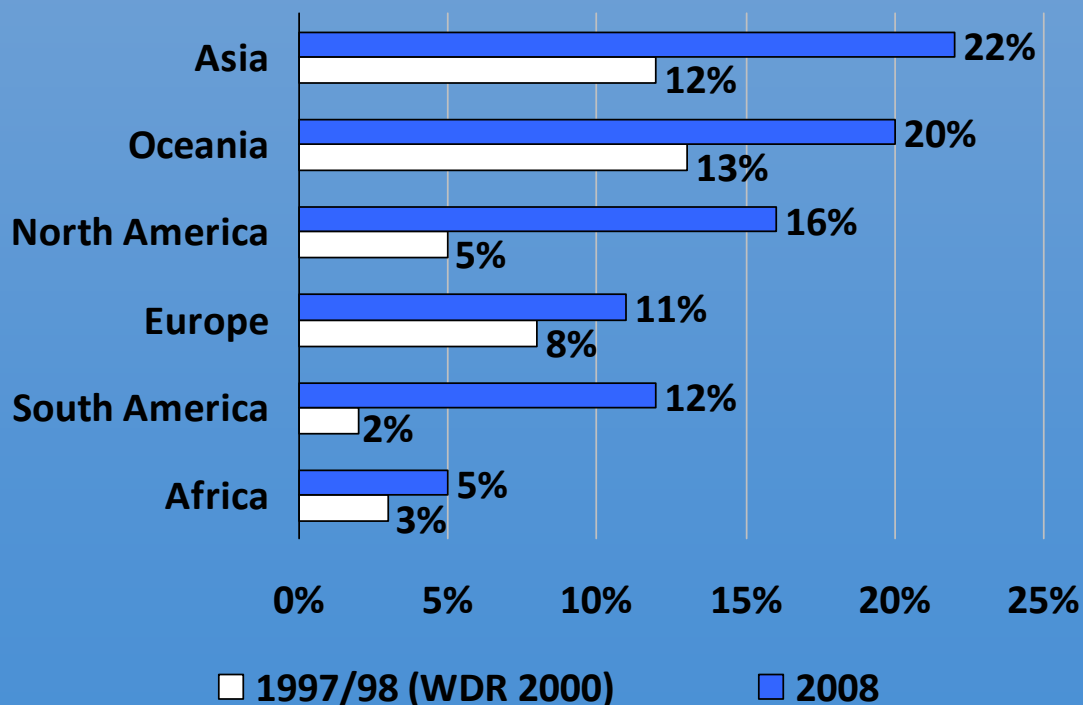
**Fig. 103: ATS use trends as perceived by experts of developed (OECD) and developing (non-OECD) countries, 1998-2007 (baseline: 1998 = 100)**

Sources: UNODC, Annual Reports Questionnaire Data, UNODC Field Offices, UNODC's Drug Use Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DAINAP).





# ATS Treatment Demand\* Grows Globally



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





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# **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**

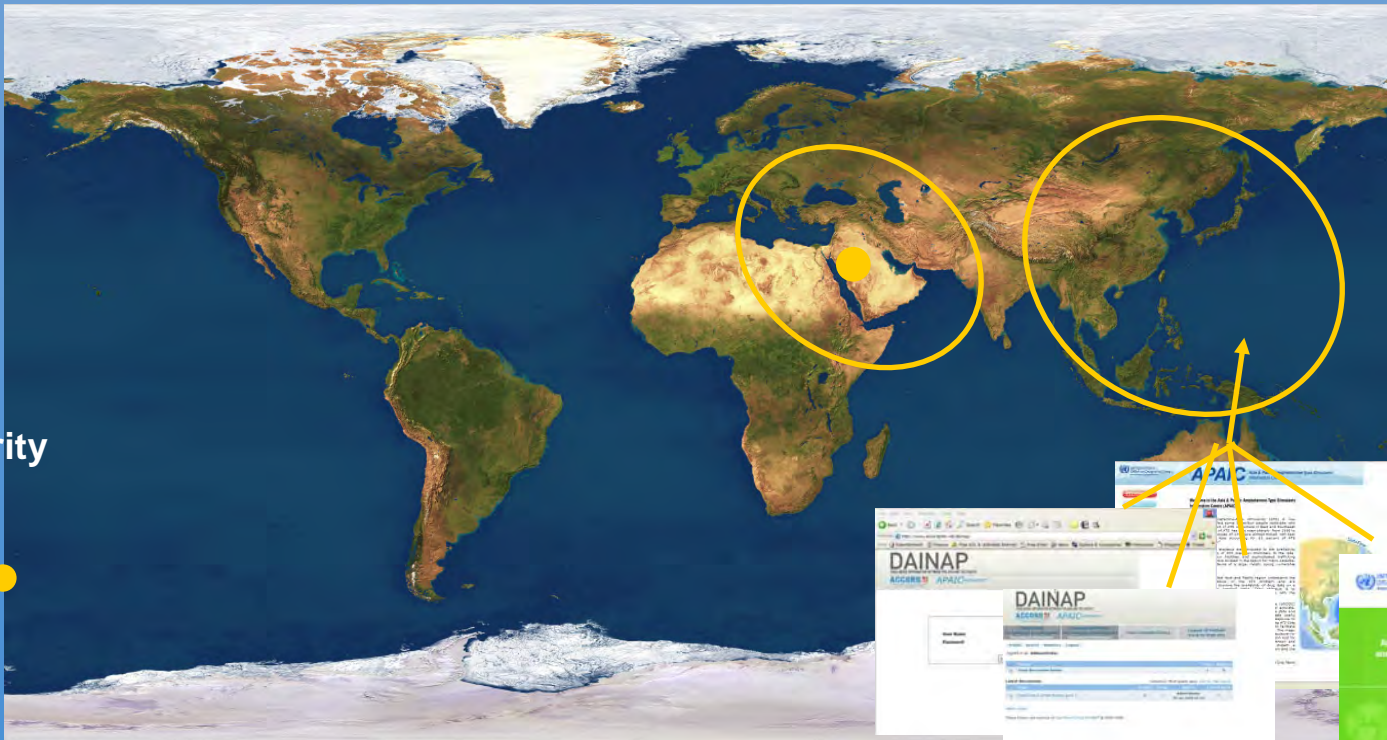


## Member States face considerable obstacles

- **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**



**SMART Priority  
Regions**

**Phase 1** ●





## Capacity building where and how it is needed

Ensuring and enhancing Information flow

Generation Management Analysis Reporting

Better  
Decision  
Making





# Global SMART Programme: Implementation in East Asia

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



## Structure of presentation

- Background
- Overview – SMART in East Asia
- Emerging concerns and case studies

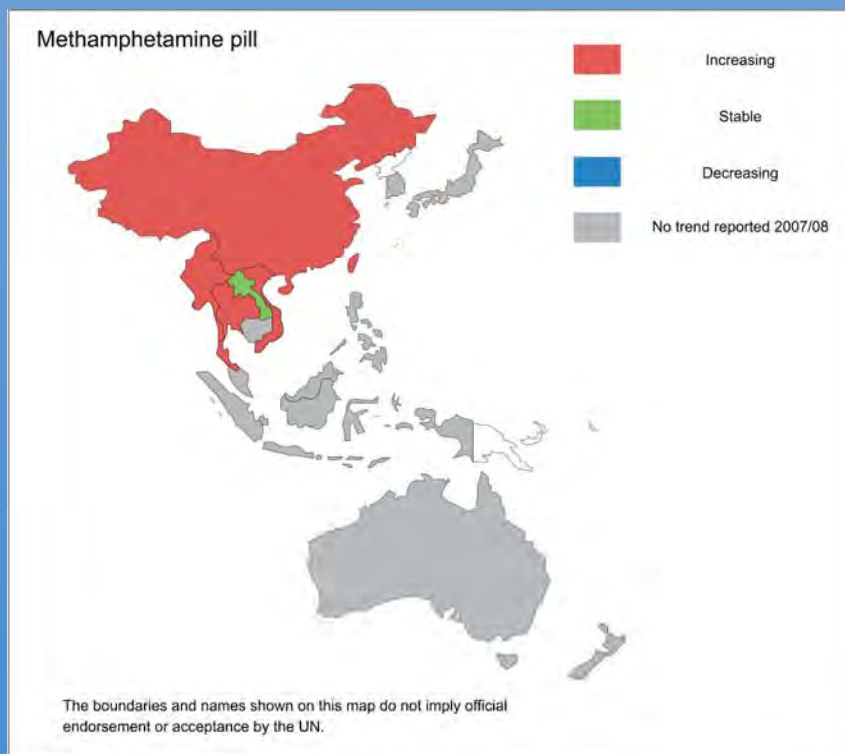


## ATS trends in E/SE Asia

- **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)

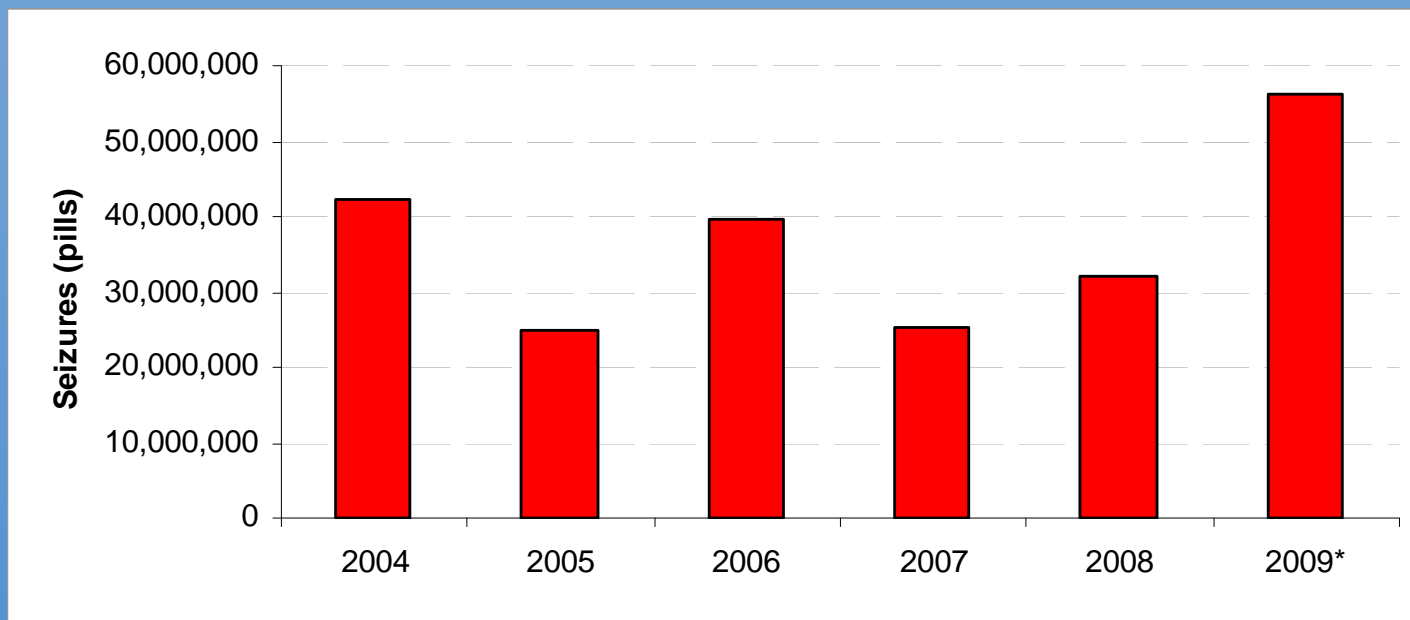


**Use reported: 5 countries**

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

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

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



\* 2009 data are preliminary and likely to be revised (likely increase).

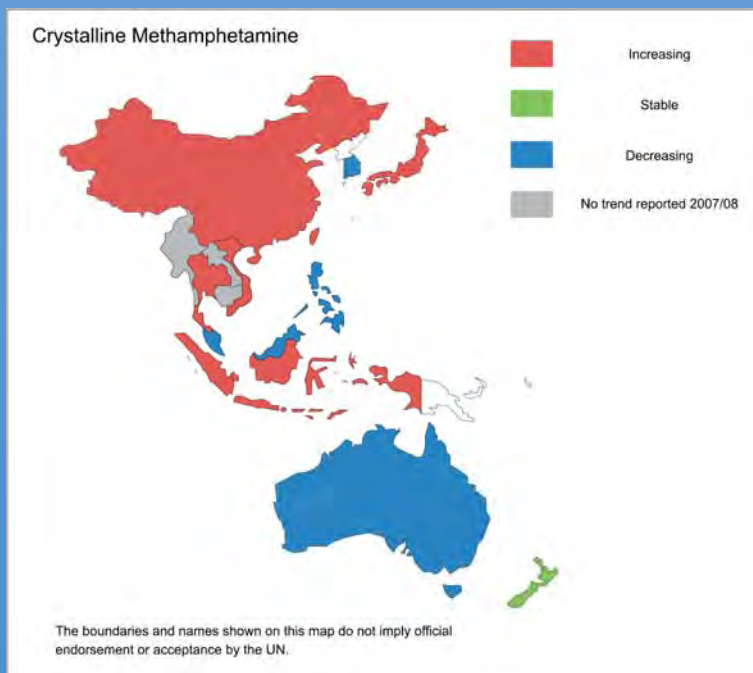
Note: Seizures from Australia and New Zealand are not included.

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

Source: DAINAP



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



**Use reported: 12 States**

**Increasing: 6**

China

Indonesia

Japan

Singapore

Thailand

Viet Nam

**Decreasing: 4**

Australia

Malaysia

Philippines

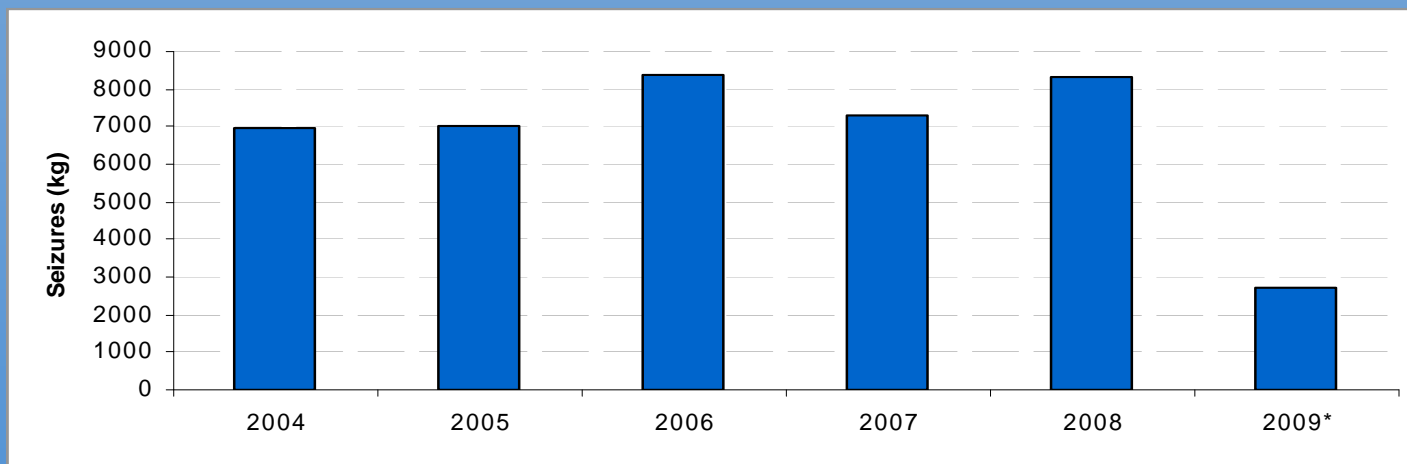
Rep. of Korea

**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%)**



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

*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 analysed and reported on at national, regional and global level.

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





## **Structure of presentation**

- Background
- Overview – SMART in East Asia
- Emerging concerns and case studies

# SMART priority regions

SMART Priority  
Regions

Phase 1 

SMART Phase 1  
support

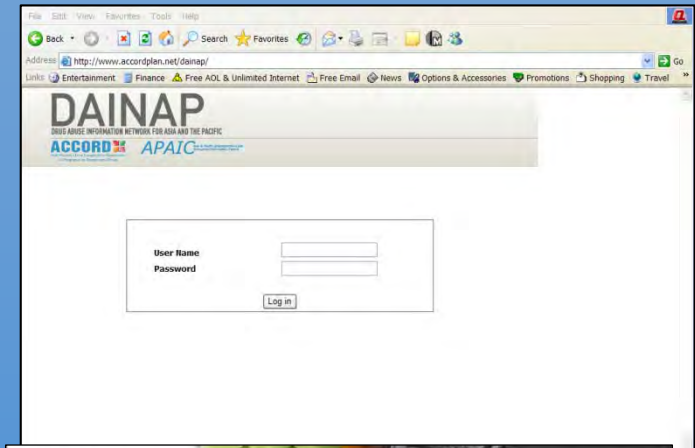
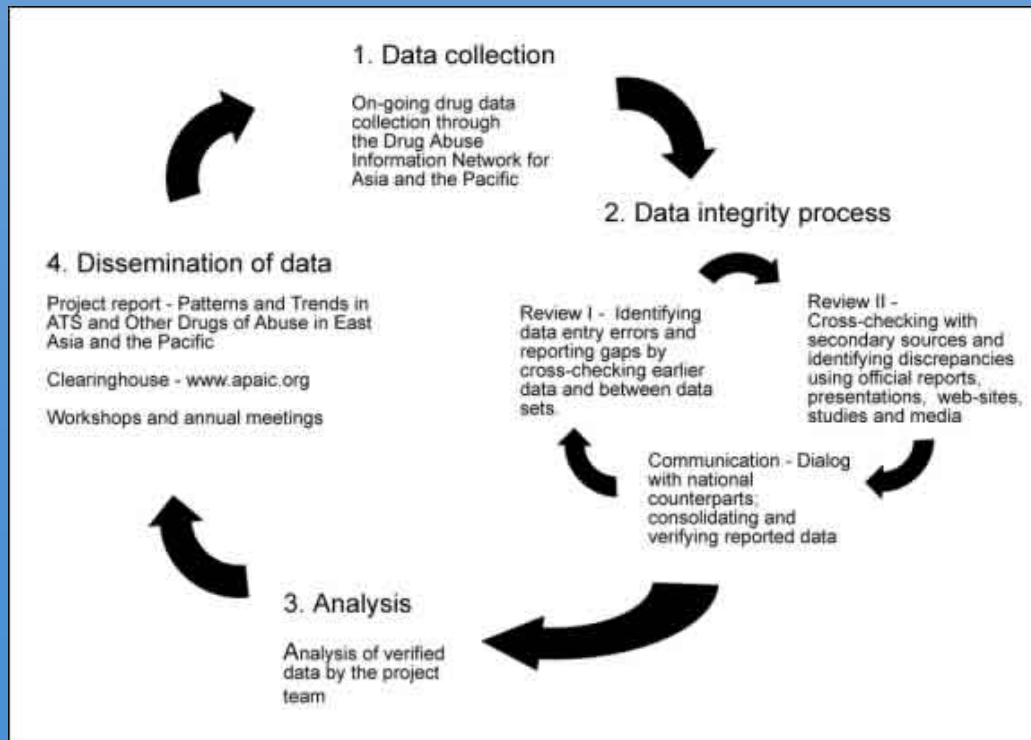
-  Australia
-  Japan
-  Rep. of Korea
-  New Zealand
-  Thailand

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



# SMART mechanisms

## Analysis and reporting - data with integrity





# Timeline 2009

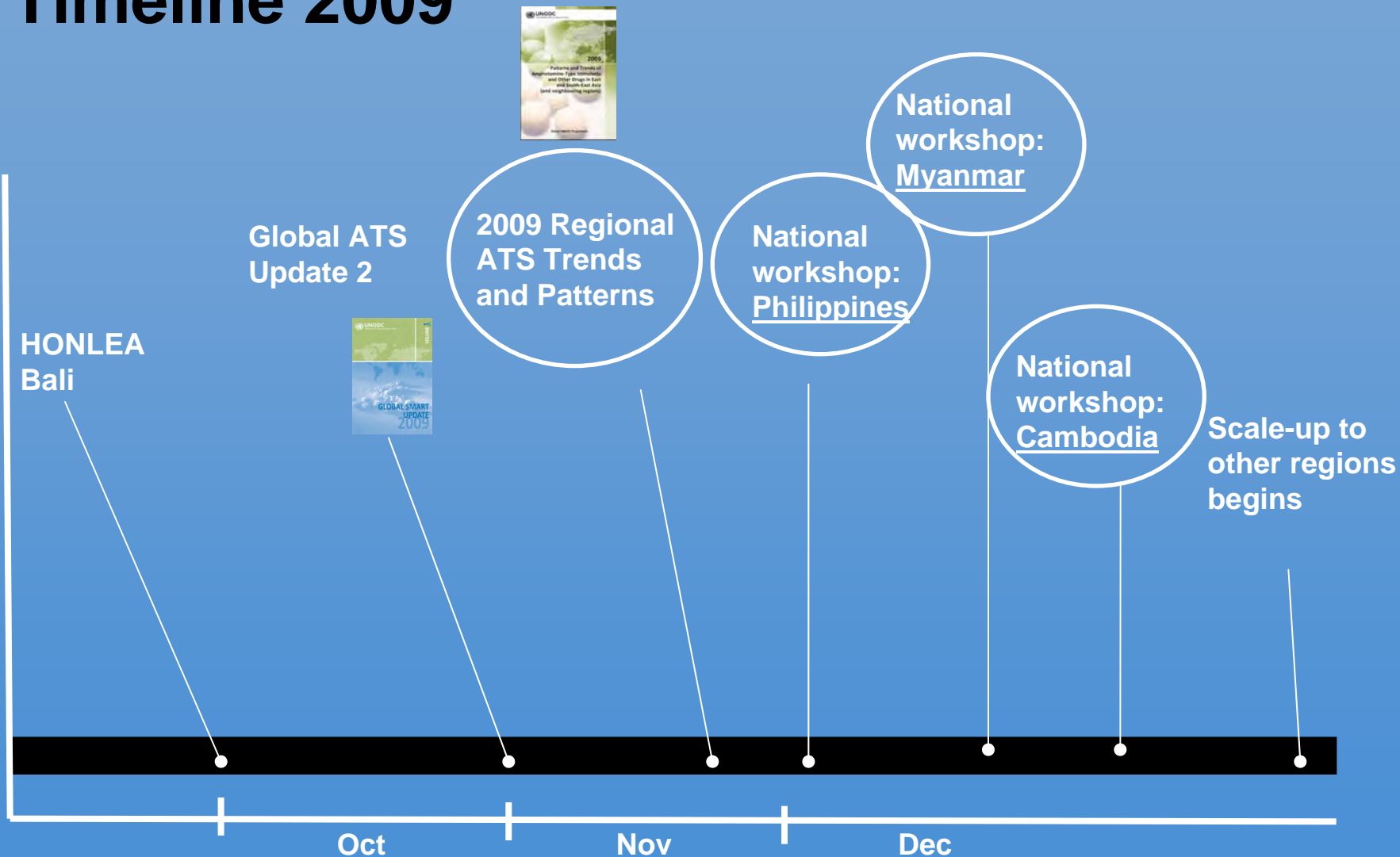
## 2008

1. Programme Consultation
2. Programme approval
3. Launch of SMART plus ATS report



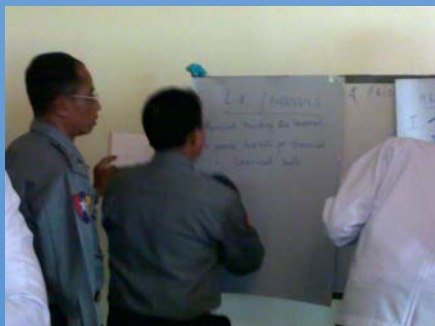


# Timeline 2009





# Workshop outcomes – identification of needs



Law enforcement



Health and treatment

Forensics



# Timeline 2010

Data collection  
and analysis



Data integrity  
process



Discussions with country  
focal agencies



Capacity building through  
TOTs, CBTs and Expert  
Consultations



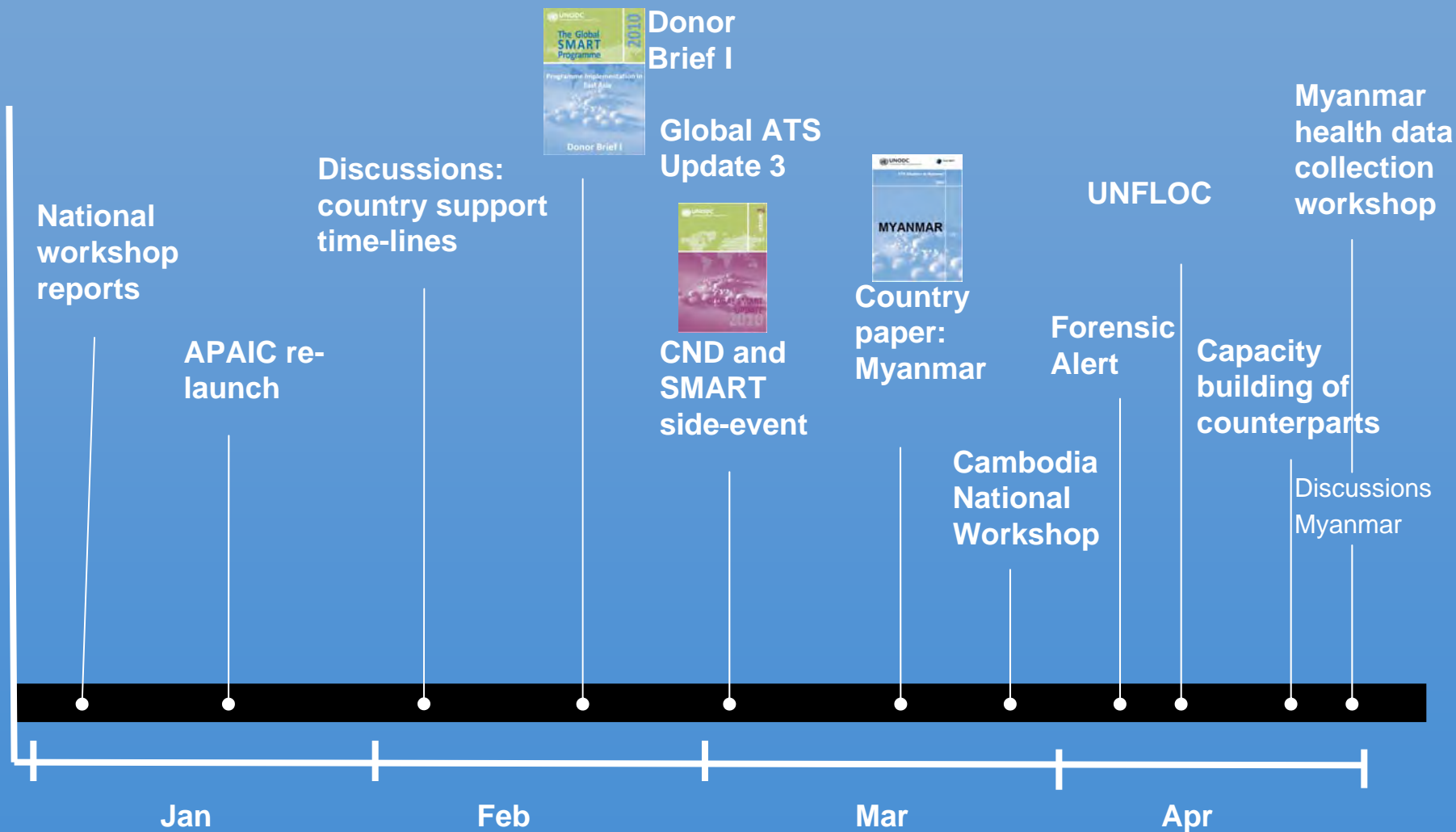
Regional report and National  
briefs



Participatory programme development : Regional Workshop: National meetings: e-consultations

Ongoing activities

# Timeline 2010: Jan - Apr

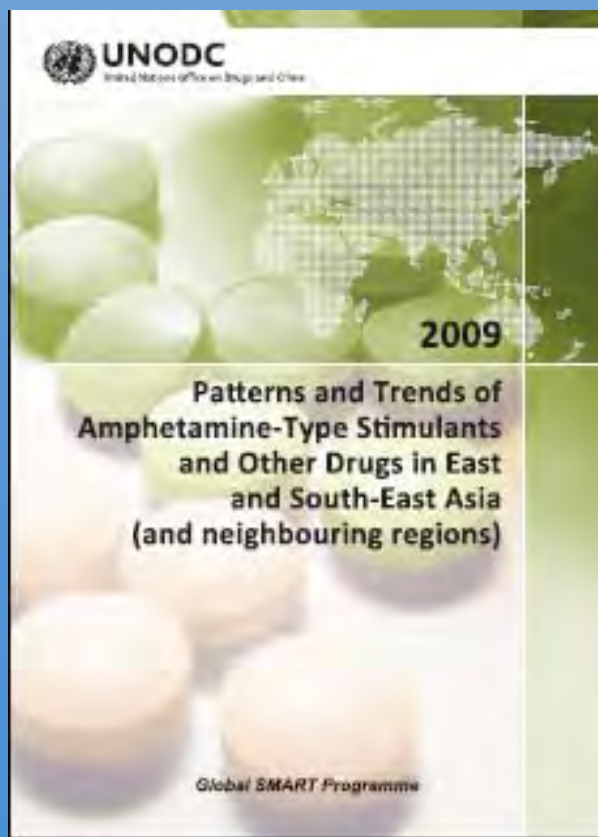






## Structure of presentation

- 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



# 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

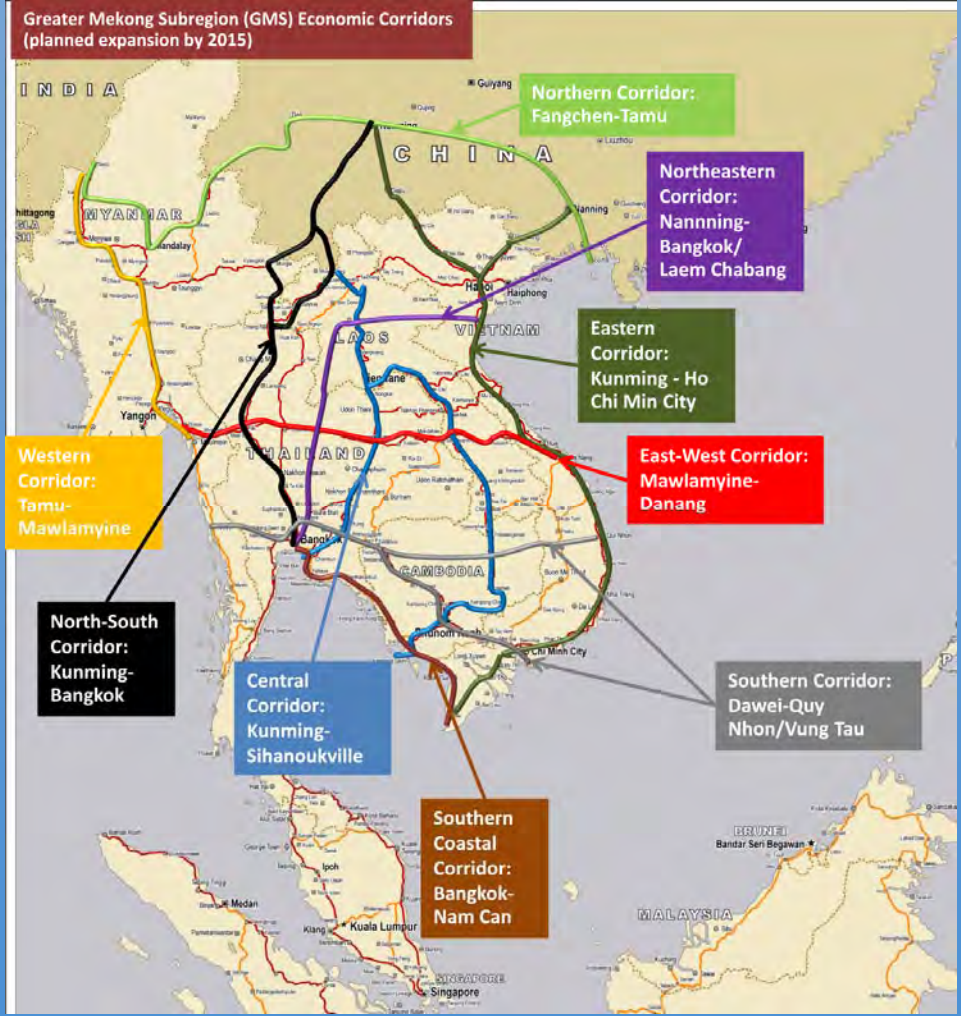
- Transportation and economic liberalization in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS).



## 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

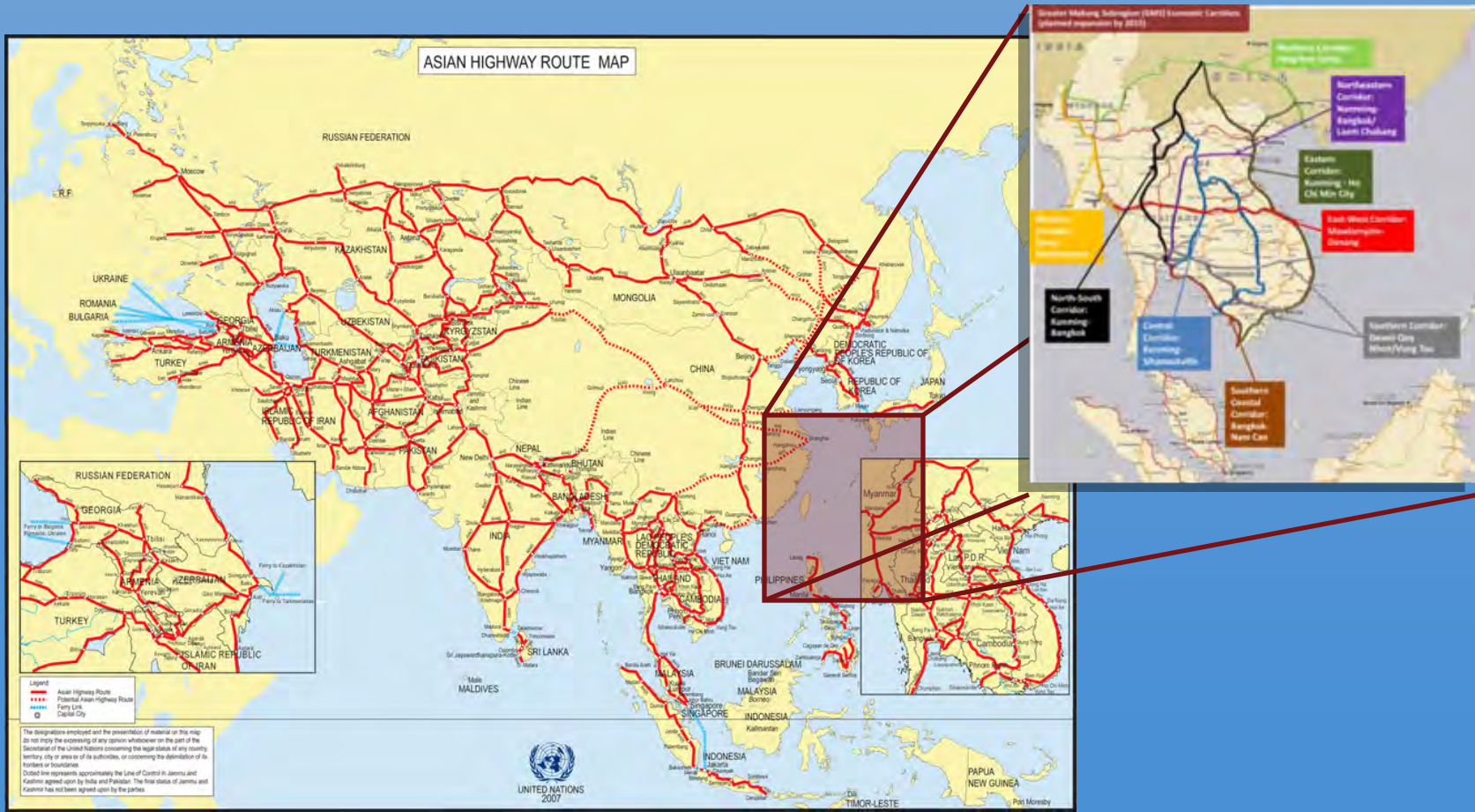
- Economic liberalization and trade facilitation
- Greater volumes
- Containerization
- Export oriented growth strategies
- Inter-regional competitive pressure
- Trade liberalization
- Poverty reduction – MDGs



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## Asian Highway Project





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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

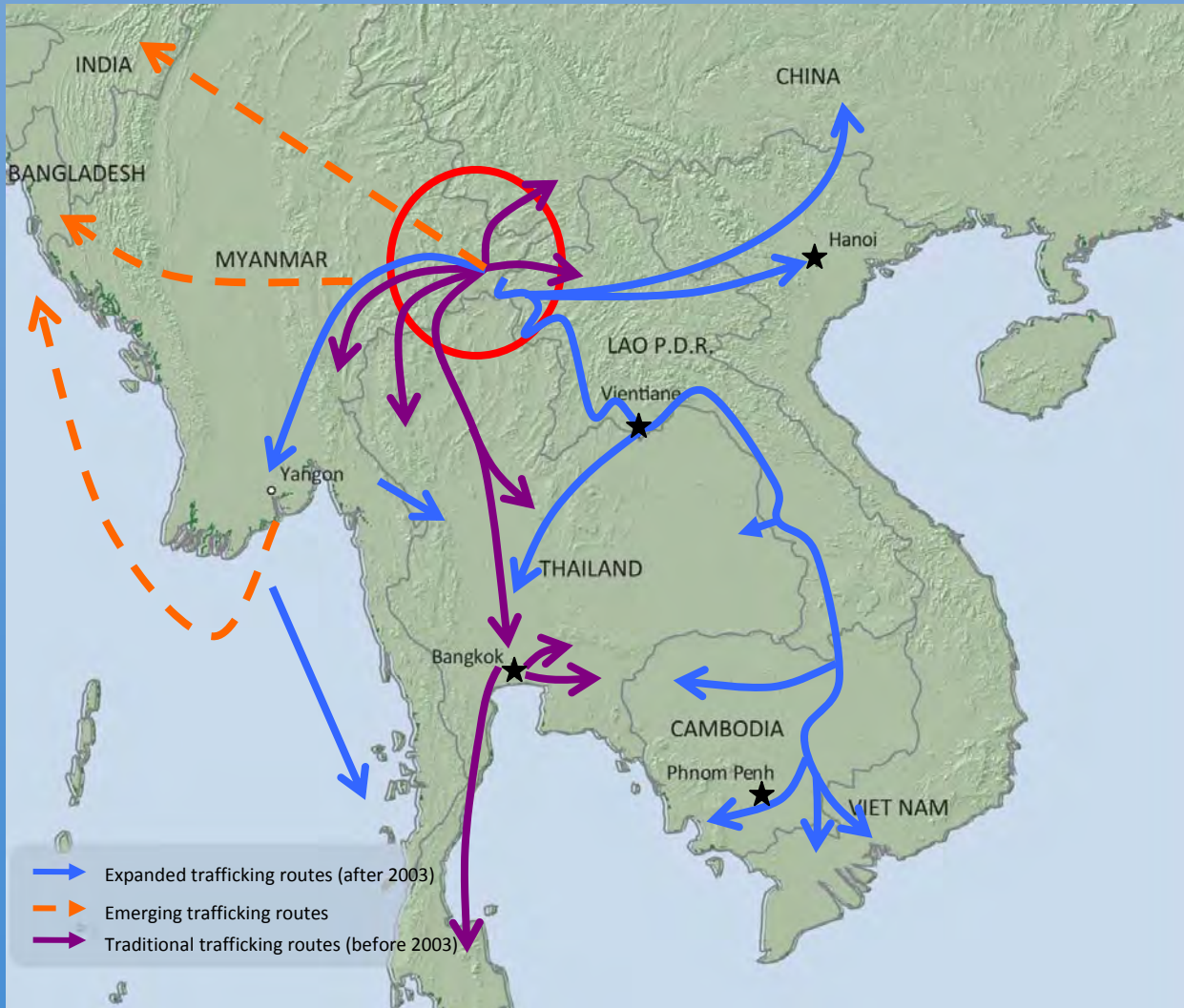




# IMPACT OF INTERNAL SECURITY - GOVERNANCE

- Myanmar: Increased movement of drugs across the border.

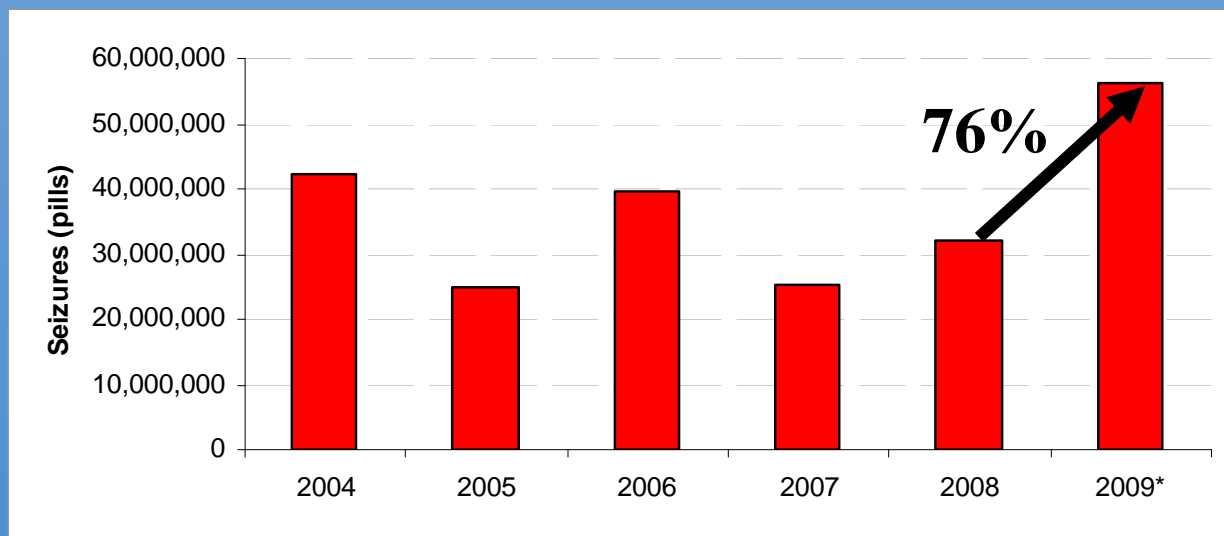
## MYANMAR: Increased movement of drugs across the border.



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

**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.**



## 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

Methamphetamine pills					
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Ecstasy					
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Crystalline methamphetamine					
2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008

Source: DAINAP

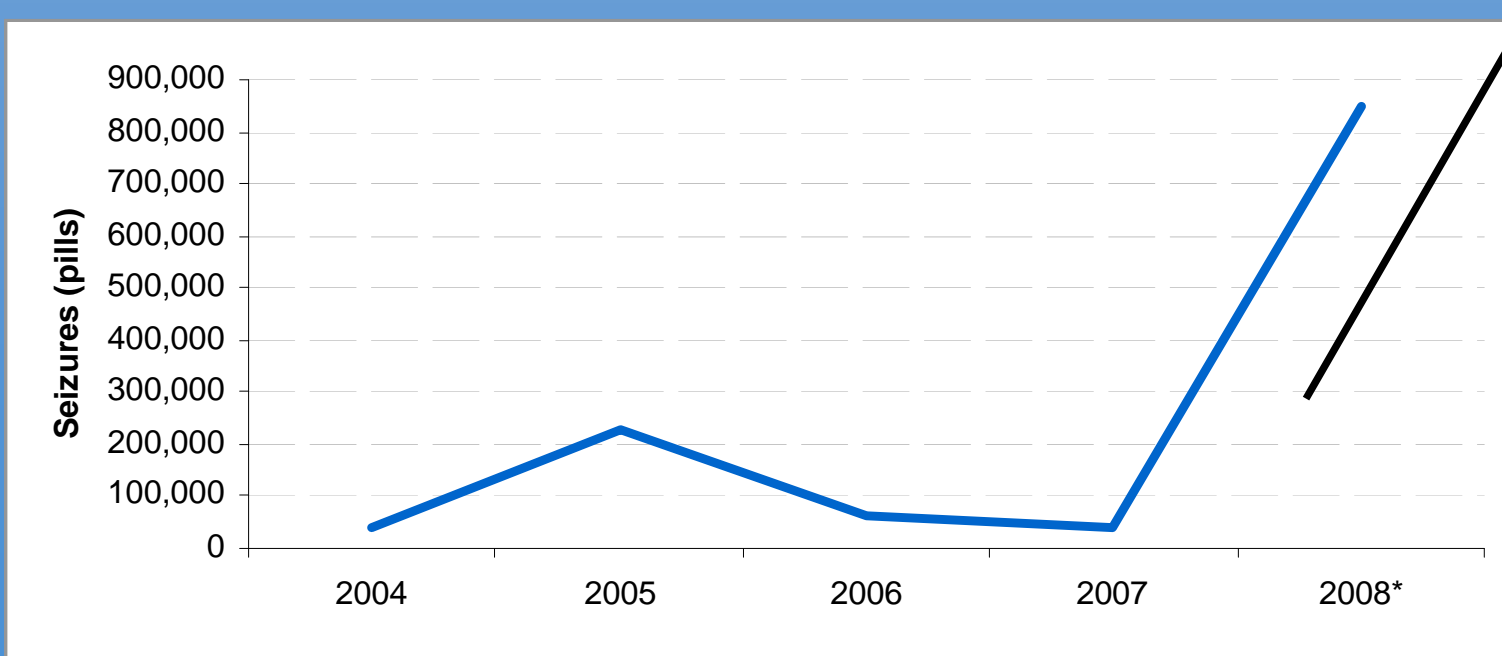




**VIET NAM:**

- 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





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

**Matthew Nice, Research Expert**

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





# Incident or trend: Changes in the Americas



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

## Proportion of methamphetamine back-track 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).





## 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







## 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*)



## 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?

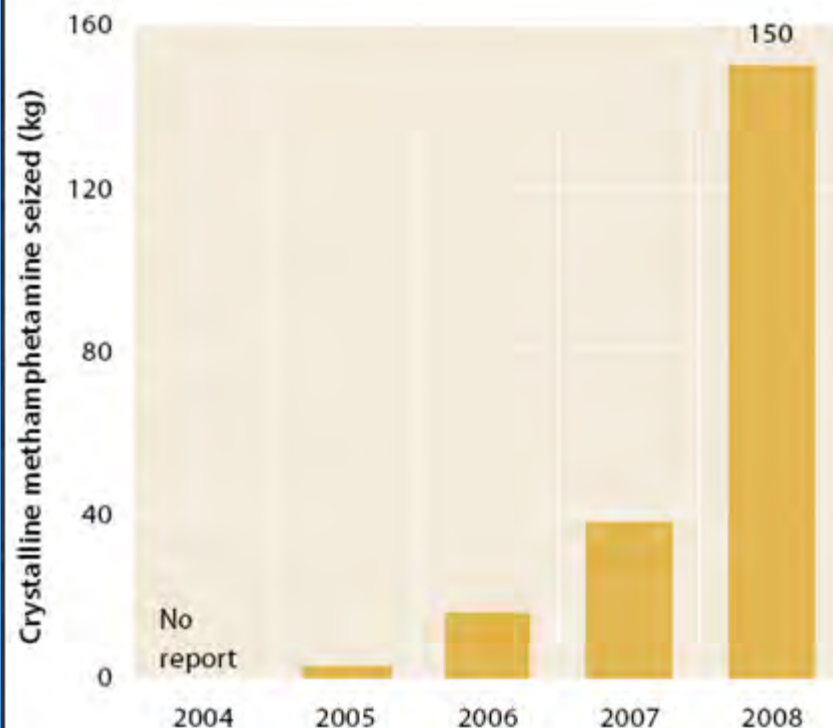


## Incident or trend: the Near and Middle East

- 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).



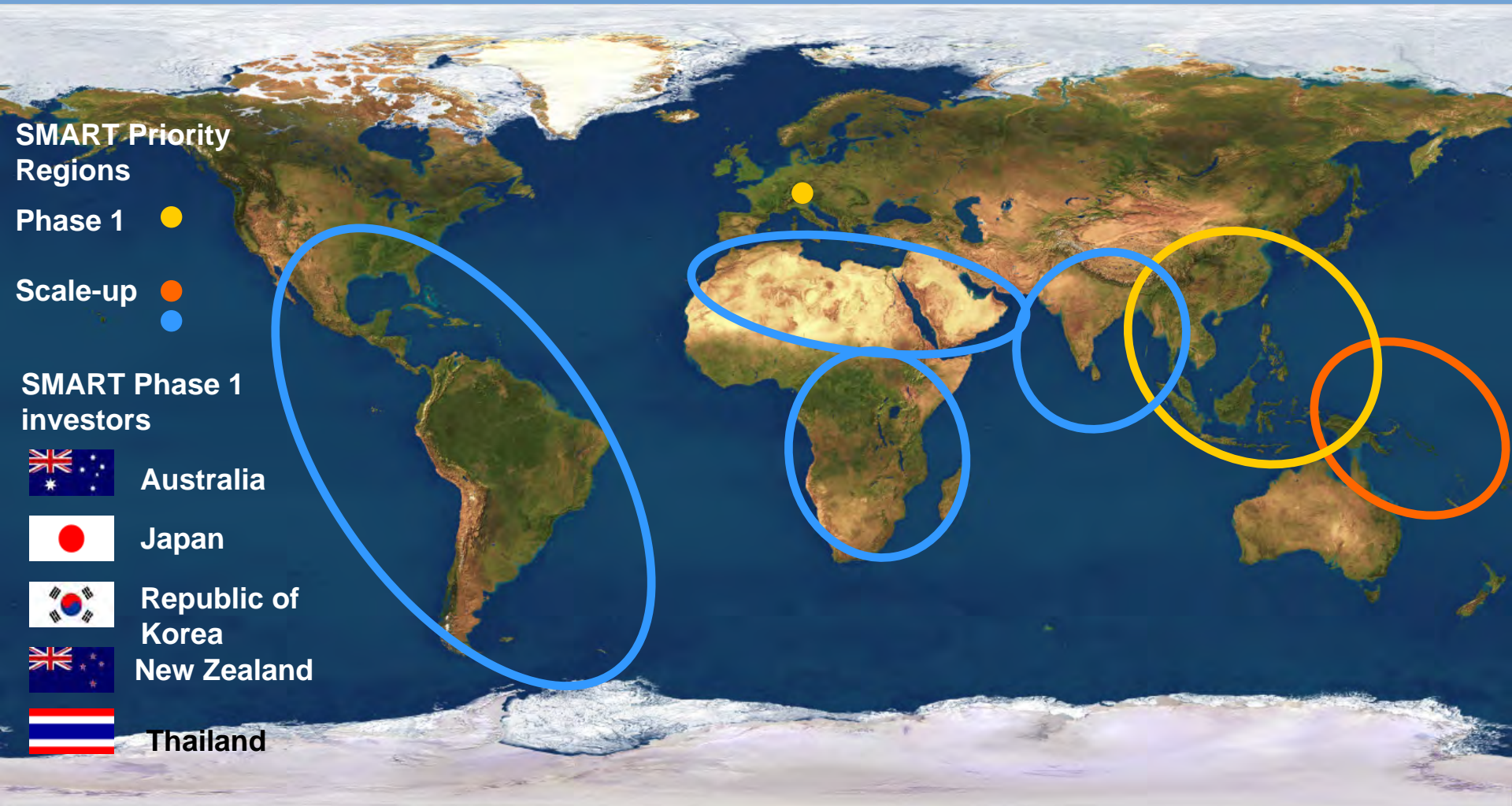
# Incident or trend: the Pacific Islands

- 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



**SMART Priority Regions**

Phase 1 ●

Scale-up ●

**SMART Phase 1 investors**



Australia



Japan



Republic of Korea



New Zealand



Thailand



## **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





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**THANK YOU  
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**



***For more information:***

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