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2011 Patterns and Trends of Amphetamine-Type Stimulants and Other Drugs

Asia and the Pacific

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Presentation Structure

- 1. Background**
- 2. Key trends – E/SE Asia**
- 3. Effective responses**



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The Big Picture

“Containment” has worked during past decade

- Number of users level at 4.5% adult population
- Opiate cultivation declines globally
- Coca/cocaine declines globally
- Cultivation is limited to a few countries
- ATS use stabilizes across globe

WARNING SIGNS

- **SE Asia: resurgence of opium cultivation**
- **SE Asia: soaring production, trafficking, use of ATS**



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What are Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS)?

- Amphetamine
- Methamphetamine
- Methcathinone
- Ecstasy-group substances (MDMA and its analogues)





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DEMAND: ATS attraction

- Affordable
- Perceived to enhance performance and communication
- Perceived as not being very harmful
- Associated with a modern and dynamic lifestyle – occupational use



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SUPPLY dynamics

- Unlike plant-based drugs, can be manufactured anywhere
- Variety of precursor chemicals
- Labs close to markets
- No longer a “cottage” industry – links to TOC groups



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GLOBAL TRENDS

- After cannabis – ATS #2 most widely used illicit drug globally
- 14-57 million people aged 15-64 used ATS in 2009-2010
- 0.3% - 1.3% world adult population



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S – synthetics

M – monitoring:

A – analyses,

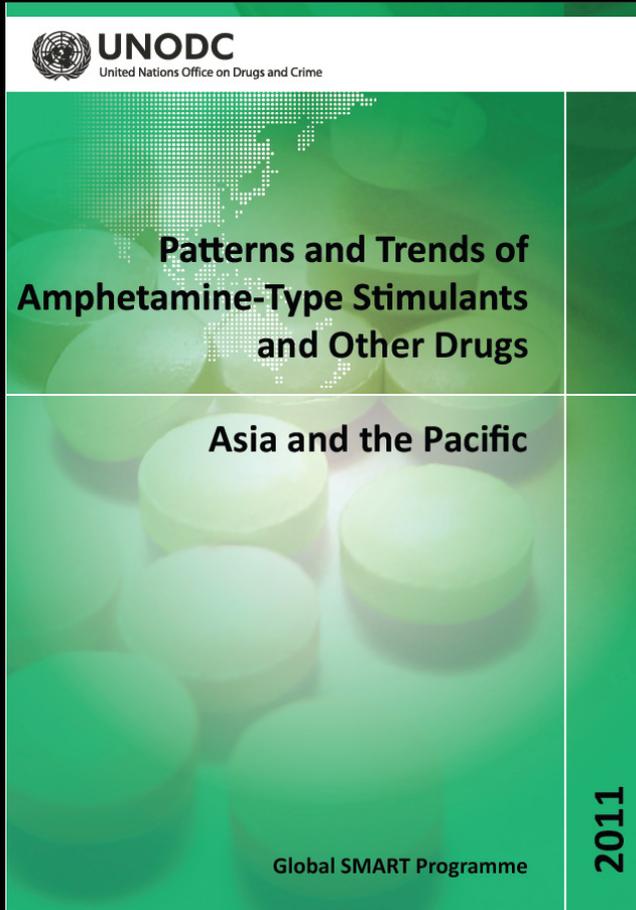
R – reporting and

T – trends



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A. Detailed assessment:

- **Regional Level**
- **East and Southeast Asia
Country Level – 15 reports**
 - Australia
 - Brunei
 - Cambodia
 - China
 - Indonesia
 - Japan
 - Lao PDR
 - Malaysia
 - Myanmar
 - New Zealand
 - Philippines
 - Rep. of Korea
 - Singapore
 - Thailand
 - Viet Nam

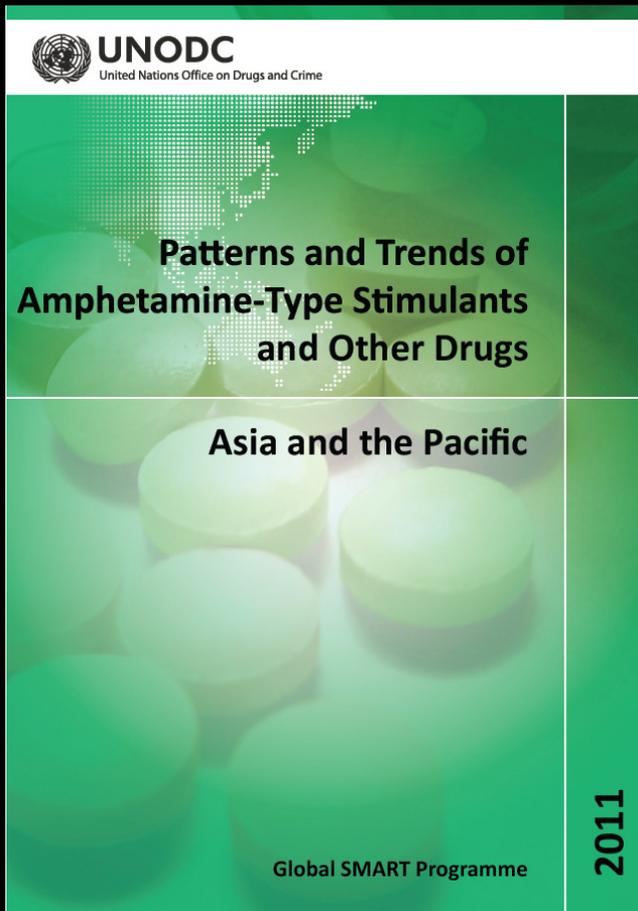
B. Overviews:

- **South Asia**
- **Pacific Island States/territories**



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Funding support for SMART



• **Australia**



• **Canada**



• **Japan**



• **Republic of Korea**



• **New Zealand**



• **Thailand**



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ATS threat in SE Asia

- **ATS: main illicit drugs threat in East and South-East Asia**
- **E / SE Asia = 1/2 world's meth seizures**
- **E / SE Asia = 1/2 world's ATS users**



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ATS threat in Indonesia

- Indonesian Government ranks crystal meth (*shabu*) as primary drug of concern in 2010 for the first time
- ATS users account for 44% of all persons in treatment in 2010 (up from 12% in 2009)
- ATS use expanding among women
- Continuing high levels of ATS manufacture
- TOC groups led by Chinese, Iranians and Africans continue to traffic ATS and other drugs into Indonesia
- Half of all IDUs infected with HIV



1. ATS rank in top 3 drugs in the region

...for the second consecutive year

Methamphetamine pills

Brunei	Cambodia	China	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	Viet Nam
•	1	2	•	1	9	3	•	•	1	2

Ecstasy

Brunei	Cambodia	China	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	Viet Nam
•	•	3	5	•	5	•	•	8	9	2

Crystalline methamphetamine

Brunei	Cambodia	China	Indonesia	Lao PDR	Malaysia	Myanmar	Philippines	Singapore	Thailand	Viet Nam
1	2	2	1	•	3*	•	1	3	7	2



= increasing trend



= stable trend



= decreasing trend



= no trend reported

Note: Numbers denote drugs of concern in ranking order. "1" refers to the top drug of concern as perceived by experts in respective countries. "•" indicates no ranking reported.



2. High levels of ATS manufacture

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2010</u>
ATS labs busted in E/SE Asia	83	442

FIVE-FOLD INCREASE

Meth pill press seized
outside of Bangkok –
Sep 2011
Source: *The Nation*
(Thailand)



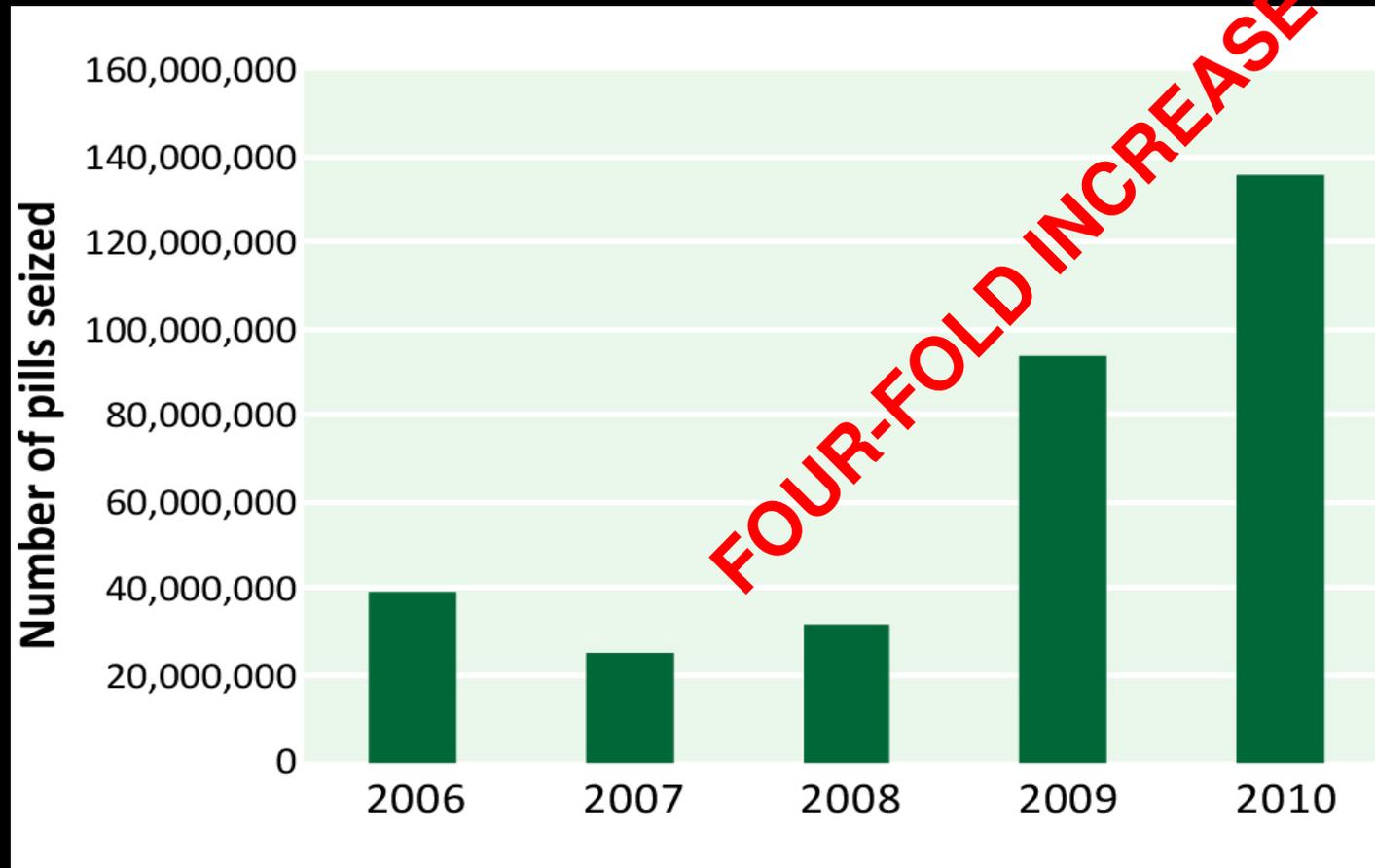


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2. High levels of ATS manufacture

Methamphetamine pill seizures (2006-2010)



Source: DAINAP



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2. High levels of ATS manufacture

Methamphetamine pill seizures (2006-2010)

Country	2008	2009	2010
China	6.3	40.5	58.4
Lao PDR	1.2	2.3	24.5
Myanmar	1.1	23.9	2.2
Thailand	22.1	26.6	50.4

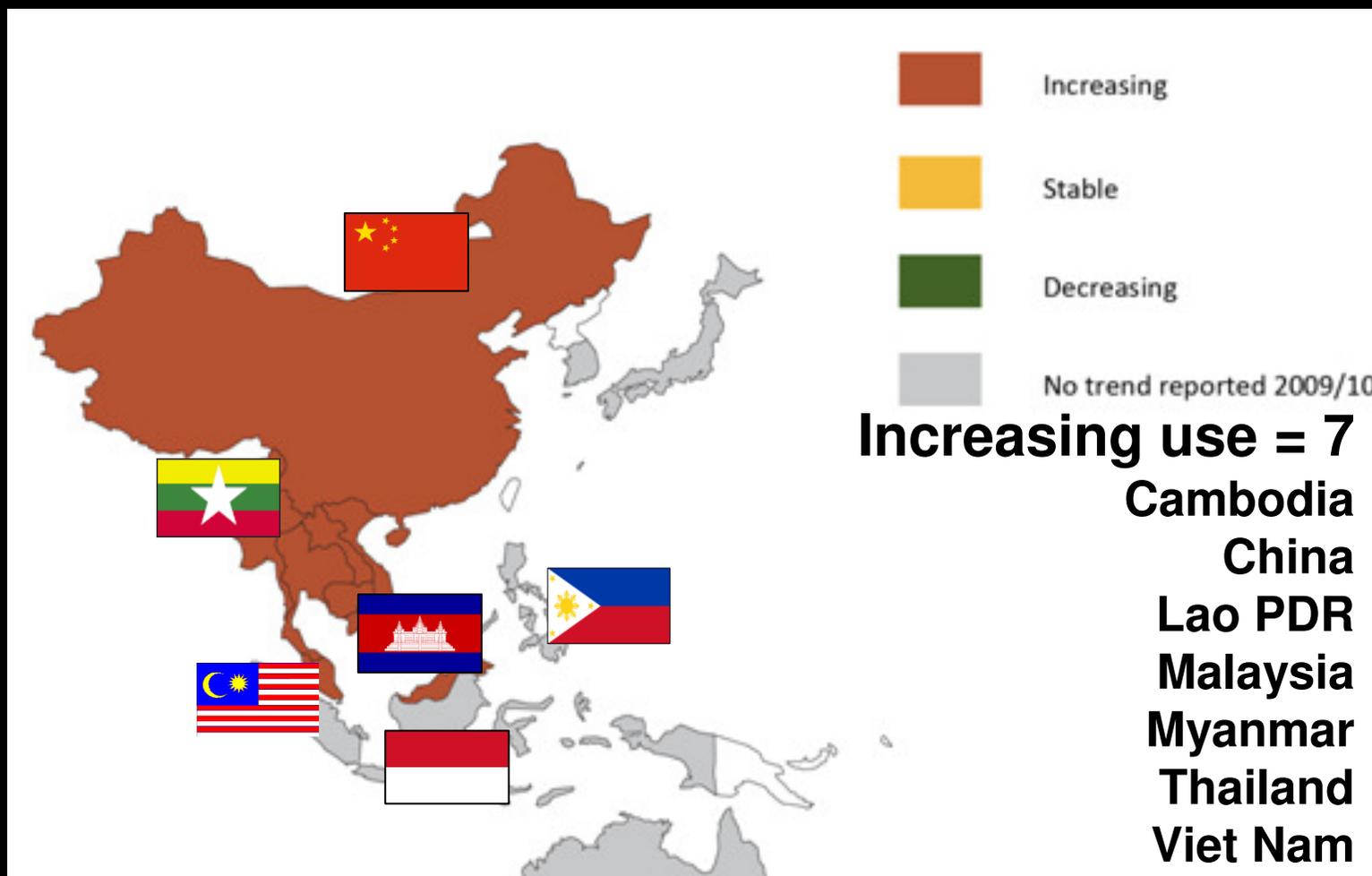
In millions

Source: DAINAP



3. Methamphetamines: a growing threat

Methamphetamine pill use trend (2010*)



* Or latest available data



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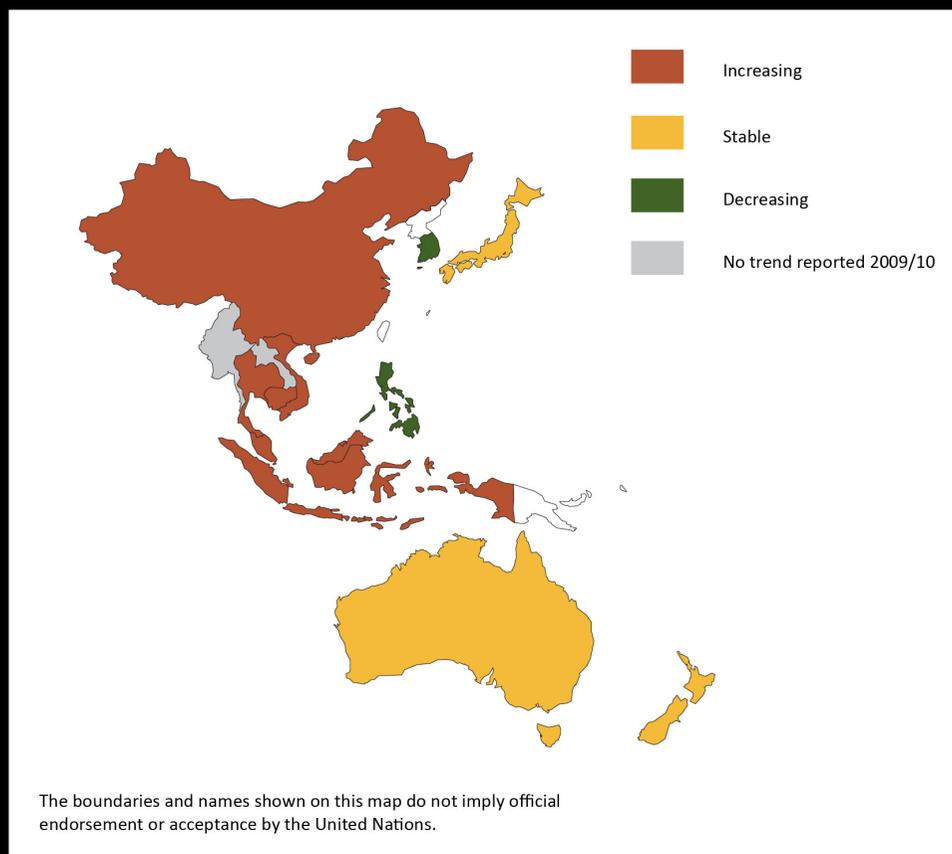
3. Methamphetamines: Lao PDR at risk

- Increasing quantities trafficked through the country
- Surrounded by large manufacturers
- Surrounded by large meth markets
- Expanding domestic market
- Remote borderlands, limited law enforcement
- Drug trafficking groups already established in Lao PDR



4. Crystal meth: a growing threat

Crystalline methamphetamine use trend (2010*)



Increasing use in EIGHT countries:

- **Brunei Darussalam**
- **Cambodia**
- **China**
- **Indonesia**
- **Malaysia**
- **Singapore**
- **Thailand**
- **Viet Nam**

*Or latest available data

Source: DAINAP

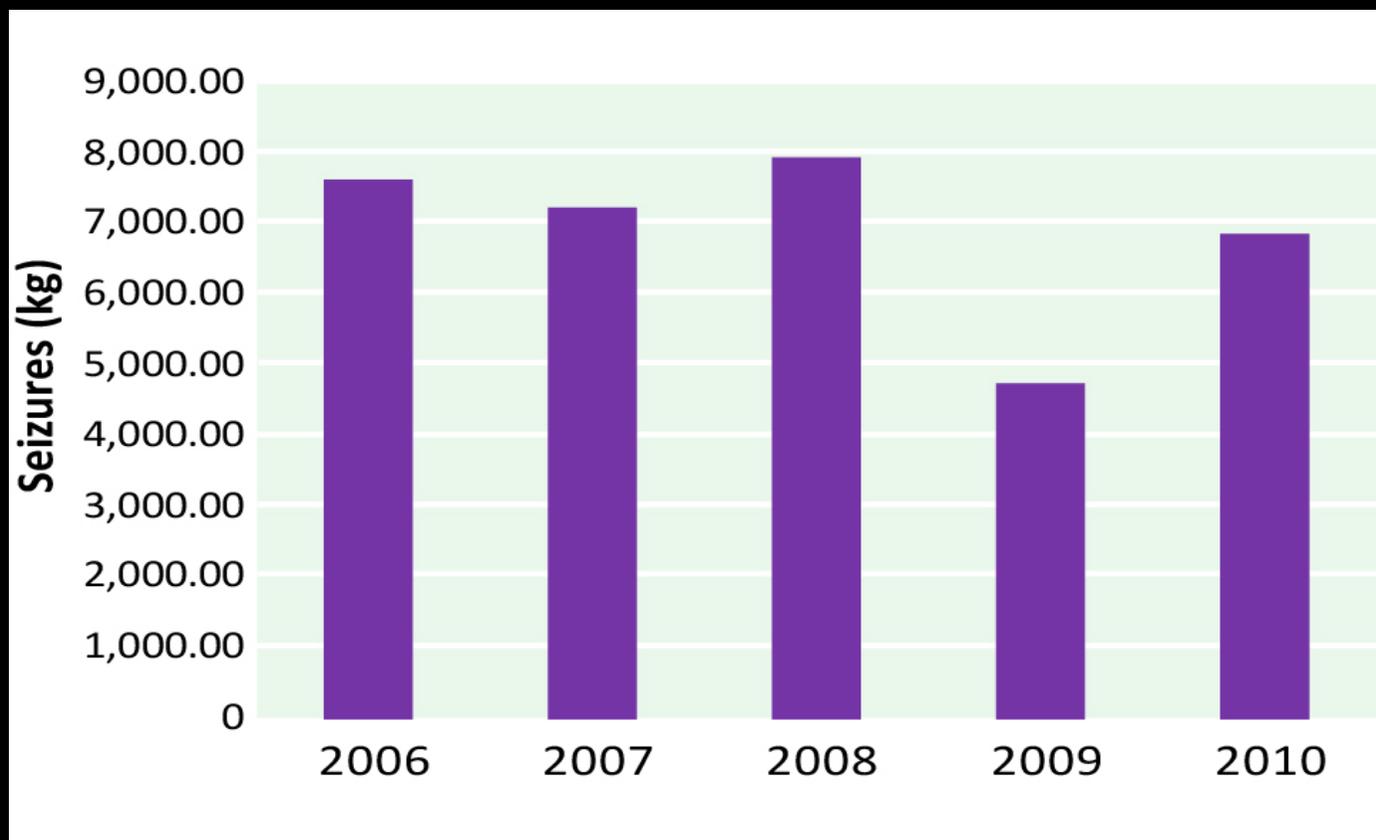


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4. Crystal meth: a growing threat

Seizures (2006-2010)



- **2010: 6.9 metric tons**
- **2009: 4.8 metric tons**

Source: DAINAP



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5. Shift in precursor sourcing



- Precursors in new physical forms
- Use of non-controlled licit chemicals
- Diversion of pharmaceutical preparations

Sources: ONCB, IDEC 2011



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5. Shift in precursor sourcing

Pharmaceutical seizures (millions of pills containing pseudoephedrine)

	Cambodia 	Myanmar 	Thailand 
2008	0	9.8	0.7
2009	0	9.4	1.9
2010	19.3	4.4	33.0



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6. Transnational Organized Crime groups

Syndicates from Iran

- Seizures started in mid-2009 and continued in 2010 and 2011
- Trafficked directly from Iran or via Europe and/or Middle East to SE Asian countries
- Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand are major destinations
- Traffic high purity (99%) and lower cost meth
- Attempted ATS manufacture in Japan, Malaysia and Thailand



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6. Transnational Organized Crime groups

Syndicates from Africa

- Operate in several countries
- Traffic primarily cocaine and heroin previously
- Emerging crystalline meth trafficking
- Sophisticated and constantly evolving methods
- Recruit women on the Internet and public places
- More trafficking by air/sea cargo



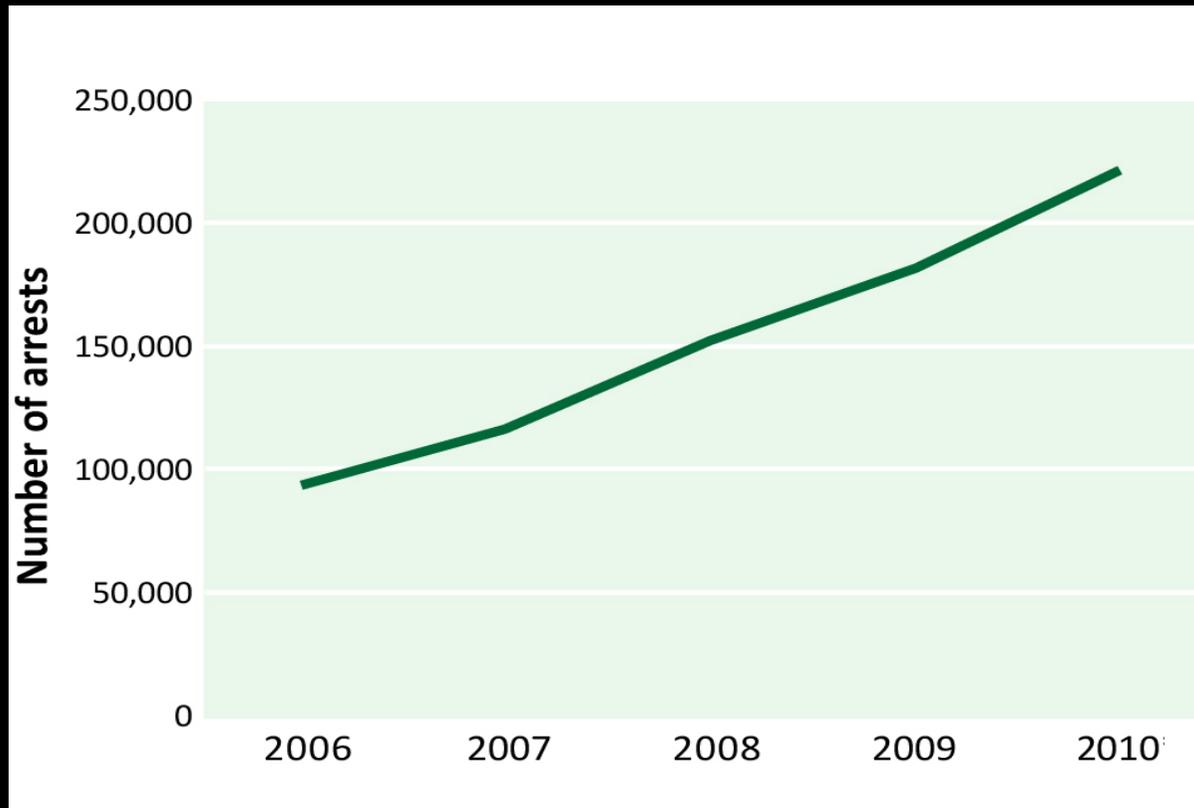
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7. ATS arrests and treatment demand rising

Methamphetamine-related arrests

ASEAN + China (2006-2010)*



*For countries which provided disaggregated arrest data by drug type.

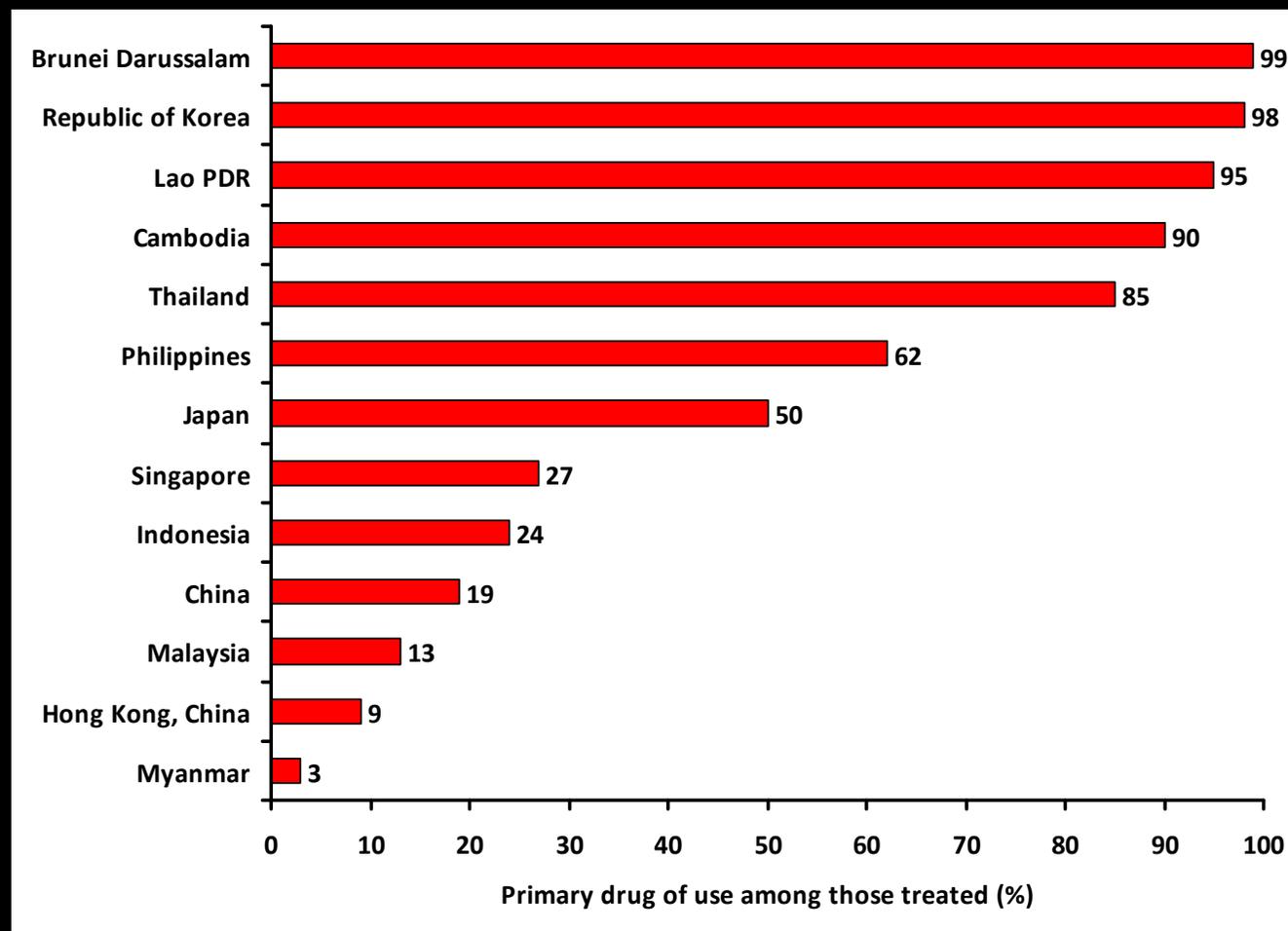


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7. ATS arrests and treatment demand rising

Methamphetamine treatment demand in E/SE Asia



Source: DAINAP; 2011 World Drug Report, UNODC



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7. ATS arrests and treatment demand rising

Lack of ATS treatment services

- ATS treatment under-resourced
- Most treatment for heroin, opium and cannabis – NOT ATS
- Compulsory treatment marked by high relapse rates



Sources: DAINAP; WHO, 2009; Thanyarak Institute, 2010



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RECAP

- **ATS rank in top 3 drugs in the region**
- **High levels of ATS manufacture**
- **Methamphetamines: a growing threat**
- **Crystal meth: a growing threat**
- **Shift in precursor sourcing**
- **TOC groups**
- **ATS arrests and treatment demand rising**



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EFFECTIVE STRATEGIC RESPONSES

1. Continue to collect data/knowledge
2. Evidence-based prevention and treatment
3. Harm reduction for people who inject drugs
4. Law enforcement
5. Regional LE/prosecutorial cooperation



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THANK YOU

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