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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Regional Office for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

# **AIPA FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE (AIFOCOM) TO COMBAT THE DRUG MENACE**

**Vientiane, 13 May 2014**

## Presentation themes

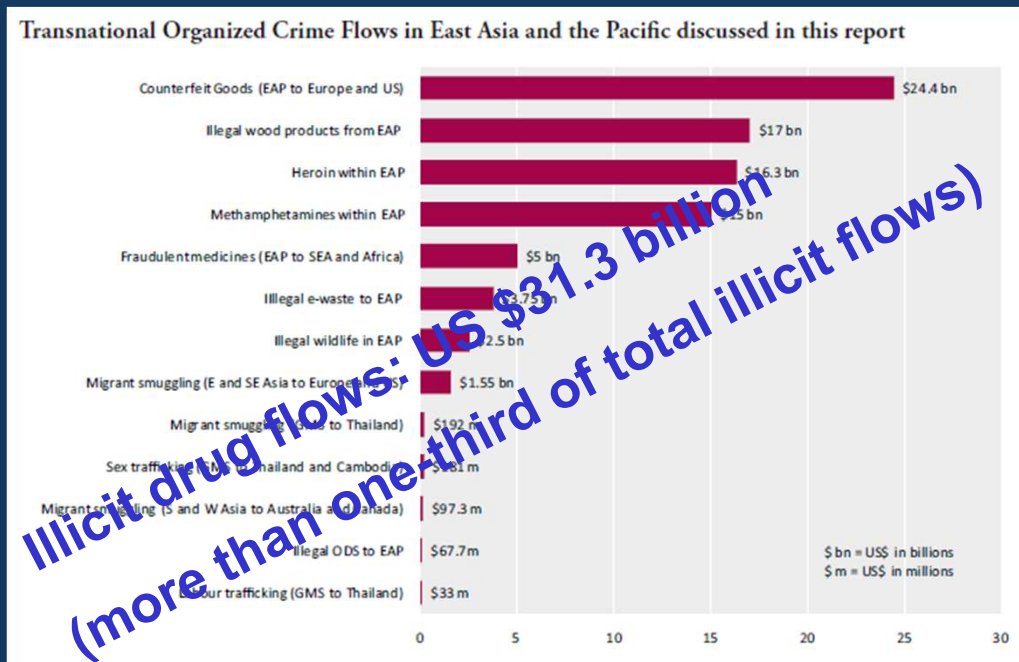
- No country in Southeast Asia is immune from the rule of law, governance and health related challenges caused by illicit drugs
- Illicit proceeds generated by major transnational organized crime types in East Asia and the Pacific are approximately US\$90 billion at an annual level, of which more than one-third are generated by illicit drug trafficking (US \$31.3 billion).
- Illicit proceeds generated by trafficking of methamphetamine account for more than half of the total illicit drug proceeds (US \$16.3 billion).

## Presentation structure

- Background
- Situation assessments
- Looking over the horizon
- UNODC assistance and recommendations



## TOC in East Asia and the Pacific: conservative estimate



- **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



## Opium poppy cultivation sites in SE Asia



- Continuous expansion of opium poppy cultivation in the Golden Triangle for the last eight years.

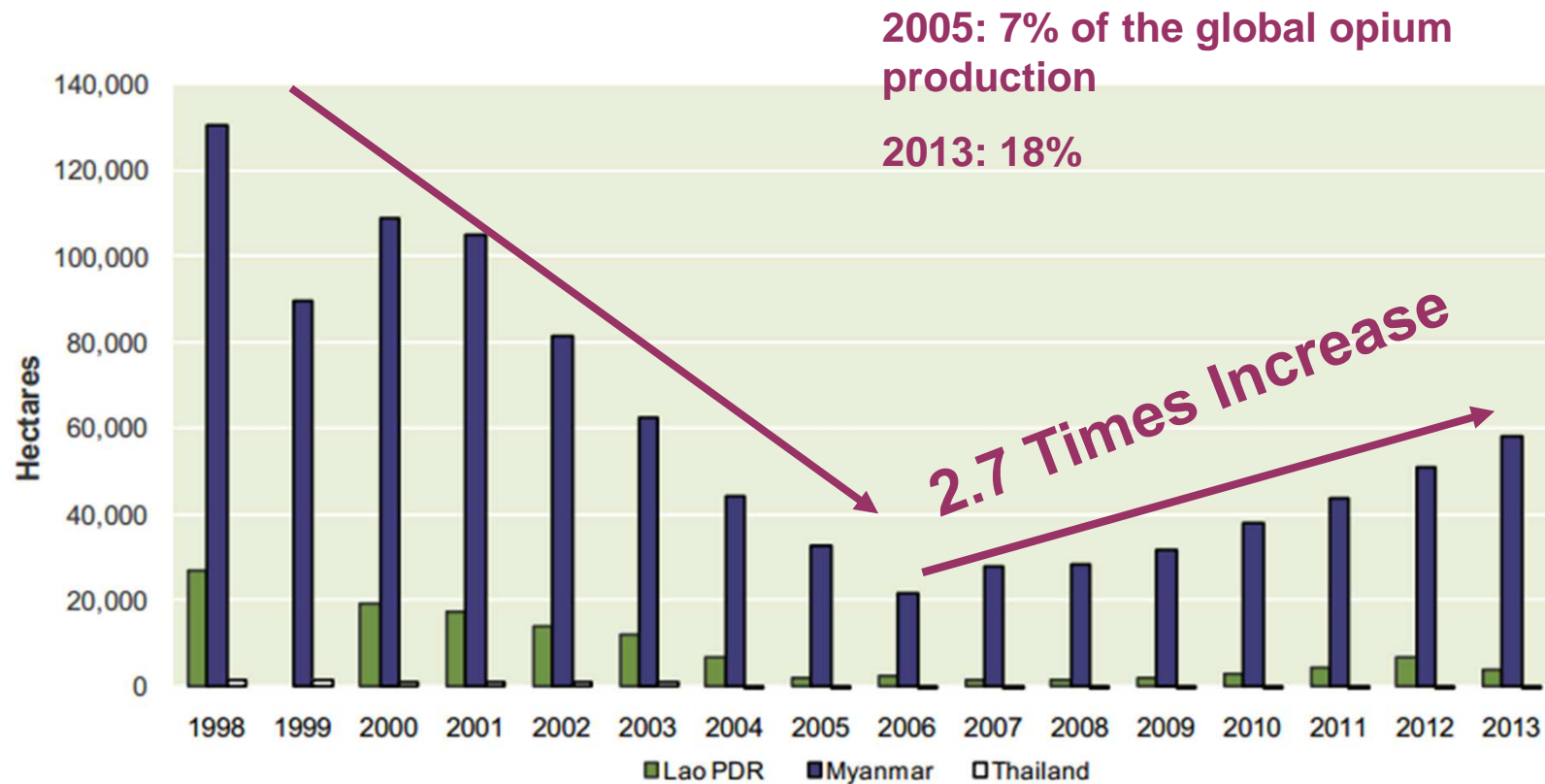
- A total area of over 62,000 hectare of opium poppy cultivation took place in the Golden Triangle in 2013.

- Myanmar accounts for 93 % of the total area under opium poppy cultivation in the Golden Triangle.

# Opium poppy cultivation in SE Asia

Resurgence of opium poppy cultivation in the last eight years

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





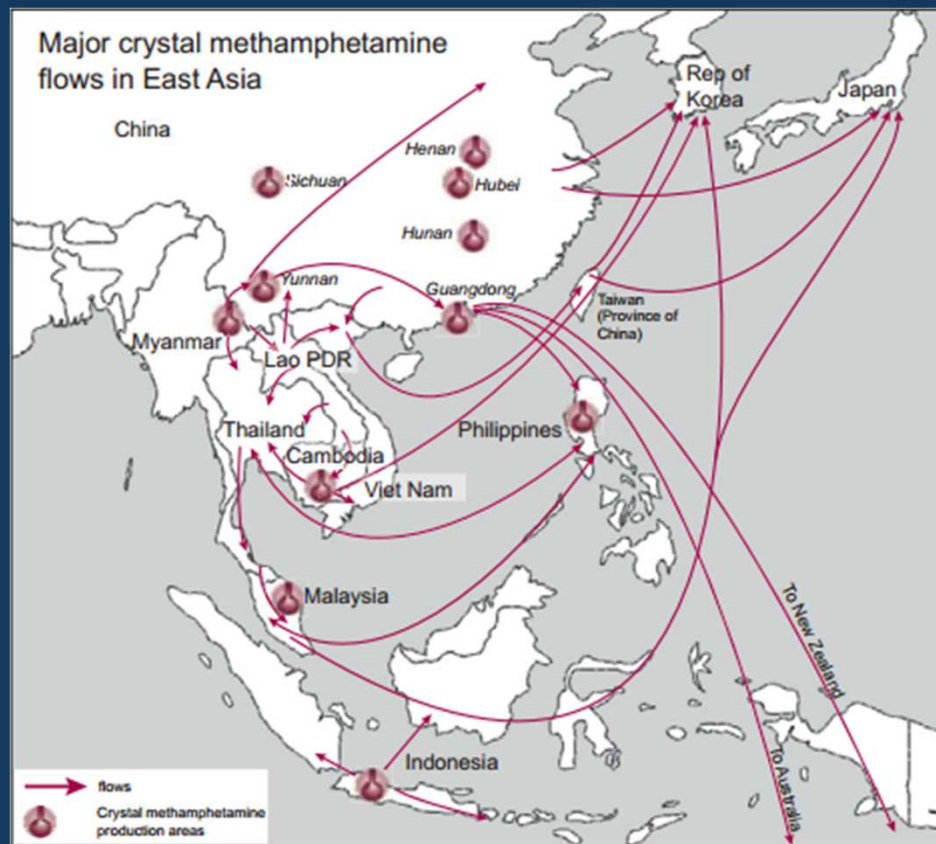
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## Methamphetamine production sites in E/SE Asia

Manufacture of methamphetamine reported every country in E/SE Asia



Source: UNODC 2013

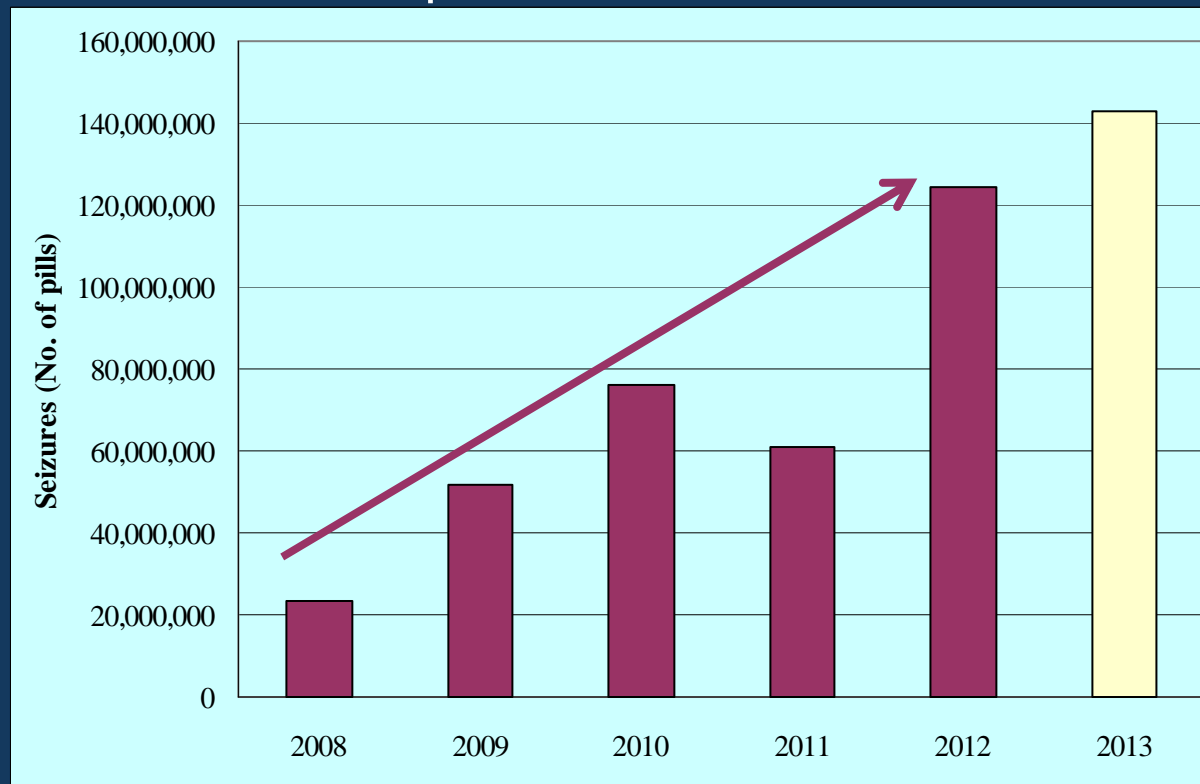
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## Methamphetamine pill seizures in SE Asia (2008-2013\*)

Steep increase of meth pill seizures in 2012



- 2008: total seizures 24 million
- 2012: total seizures 125 million
- 2013: the estimated total seizures 143 million

Source: DAINAP

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



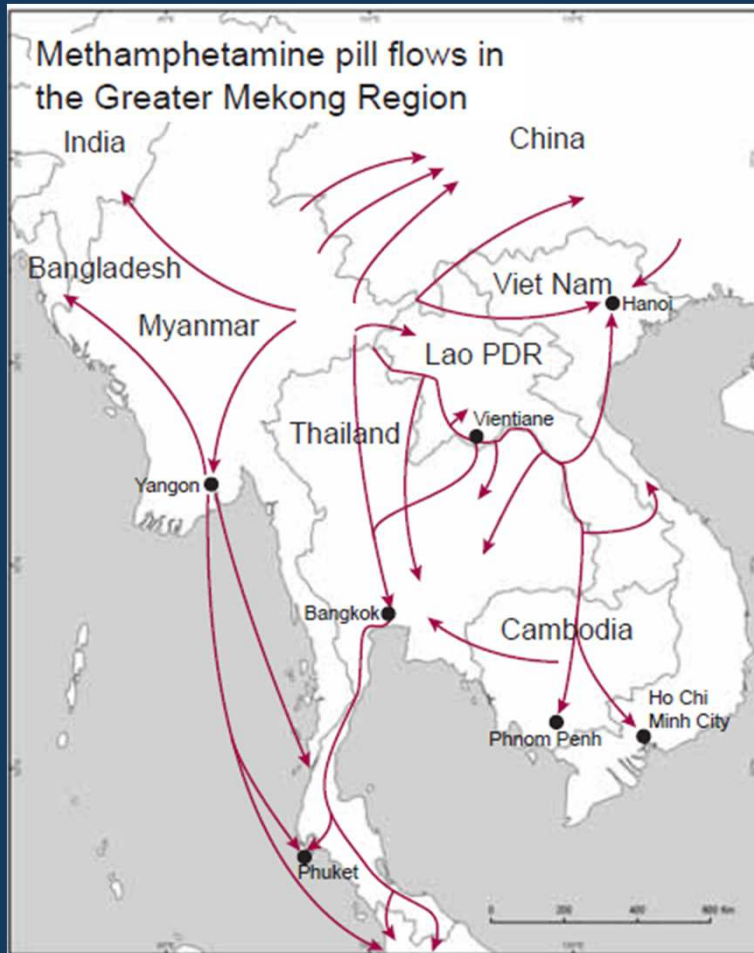
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# Methamphetamine pill flows in the Greater Mekong Region

High demand for meth pills

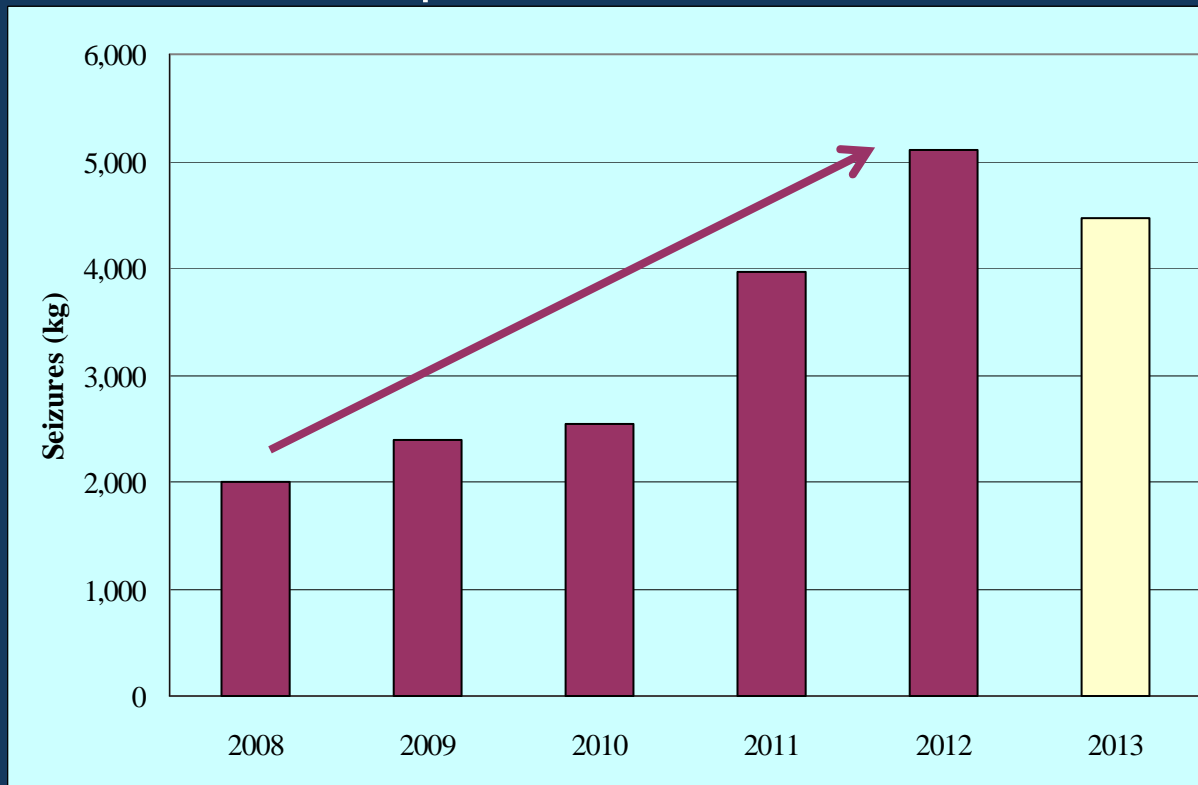


- 2.25 million meth pills were seized in Bokeo, Lao PDR (April 2013)

Source: LCDC

## Crystal meth seizures in SE Asia (2008 – 2013\*)

Highest seizure total in past decade



- 2008: total seizures 1.9 tons
- 2012: total seizures 5.1 tons
- 2013: the estimated total seizures 4.5 tons

Source: DAINAP

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



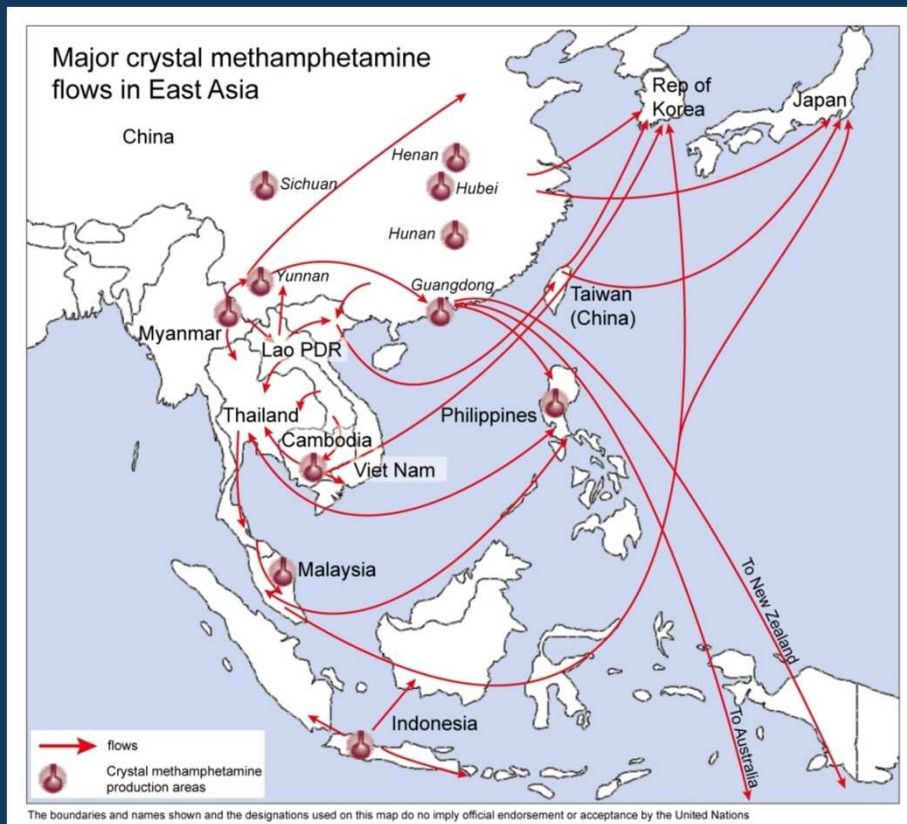
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## Crystal meth flows in SE Asia

Increasing crystal meth trafficking & consumption in the region



- Four men working for a Chinese drug syndicate were arrested in Parañaque City, Philippines (Jan, 2014) for trafficking crystal meth.
- Seized 272 kg of crystal meth.



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## Increasing ATS production in E/SE Asia

Continuous expansion of ATS manufacture

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2012</u>
ATS labs busted in E/SE Asia	<b>83</b>	<b>385</b>

Source: UNODC



- 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 (Jan, 2014)



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## International drug trafficking syndicate

West African drug syndicates



- Arrest of a Nigerian national - trafficking 0.62 kg of crystal meth hidden in his stomach (Feb, 2014)
- Routes: Nigeria – Ethiopia - Thailand



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## International drug trafficking syndicate

West Asia drug syndicates



- Arrest of 7 Iranians and 4 Malaysians in Malaysia (Feb 2014)
- Seized 11.3kg of crystal meth, 11.6kg liquid meth together with 3.5kg heroin and 1,100 ecstasy pills

## Inter-regional methamphetamine trafficking

Mexican drug cartels



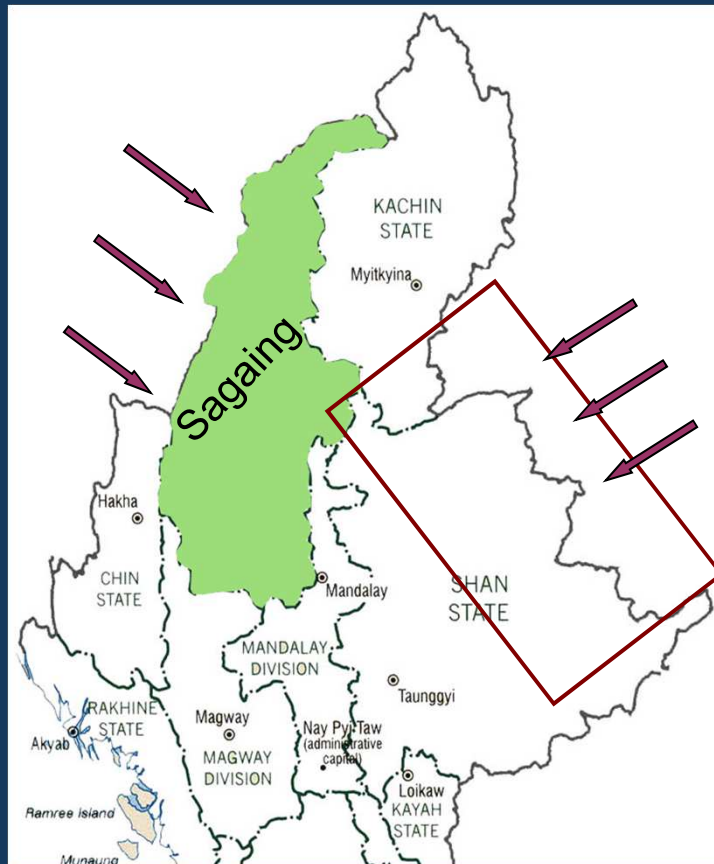
- Arrest of two Filipino nationals and one Chinese national linked to Mexico's Sinaloa drug cartel
- Seized 84 Kg of crystal meth with firearms found in a storage facility in Lipa, Philippines (Dec, 2013)





# Trafficking of meth precursors

Lack of information to assess the situation



## Pseudoephedrine seized in India-Myanmar borders (2011-2013)

	2011	2012	2013
Pseudoephedrine (Million tabs)	10.55	47.11	28.13



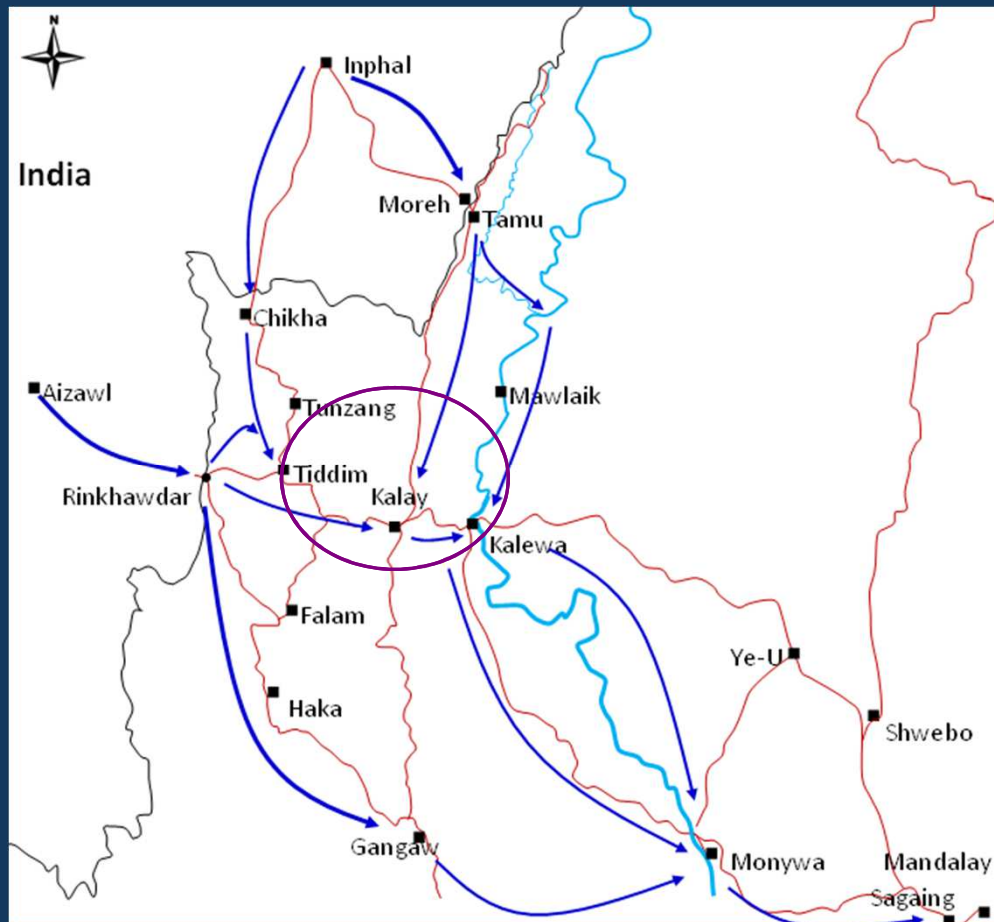
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## Smuggling of meth precursors at Myanmar-India borders

Tightened border security and diversified routes



- A Myanmar national was arrested in Kalay, Sagaing, Myanmar (Jan 2014)
- Seized 1.1 million Pseudoephedrine tablets

Source: Thihtoolwin



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## Another route for meth precursors trafficking

Eastern part of Myanmar



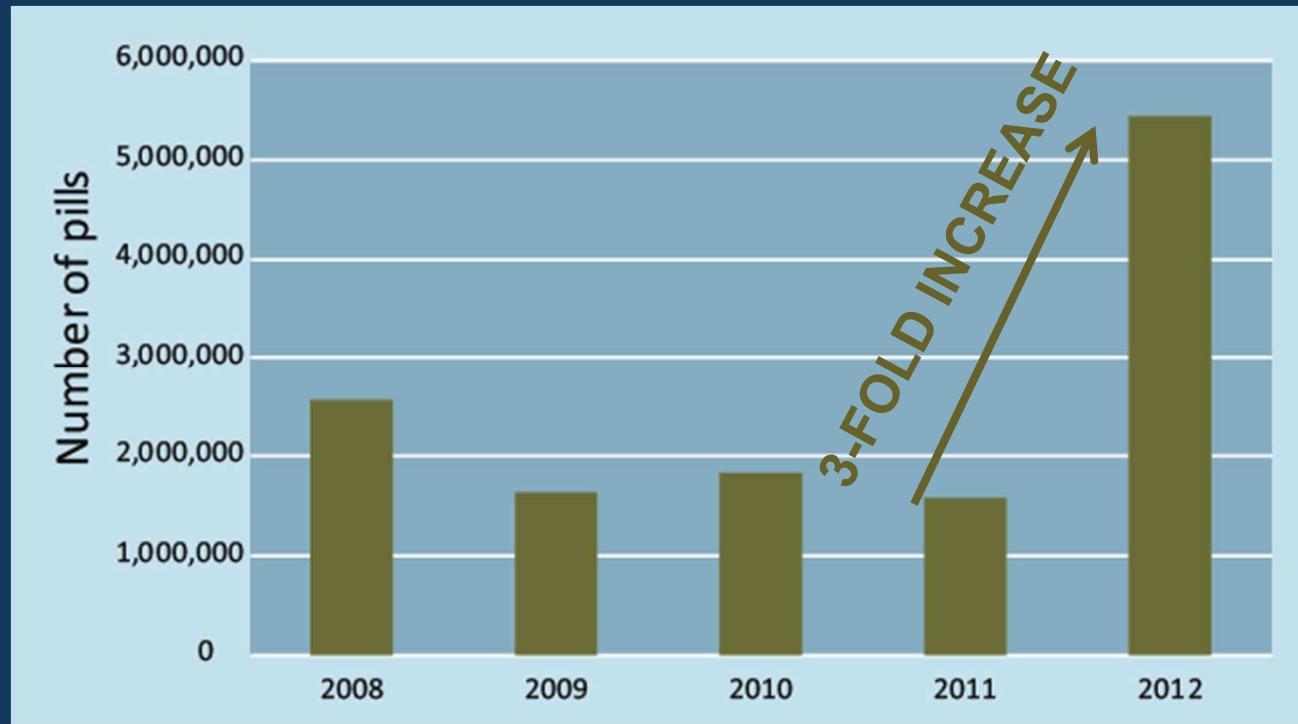
On 4<sup>th</sup> October 2013, Myanmar authorities seized 7 metric tons of meth cutting agents in Tachilek township near Myanmar – Lao PDR border.



Source: CCDAC

## Ecstasy seizures in E/SE Asia (2008 – 2012)

Sharp increase of ecstasy seizures in 2012 (may include meth)



- 2011: total seizures 1.6 million pills
- 2012: total seizures 5.4 million pills

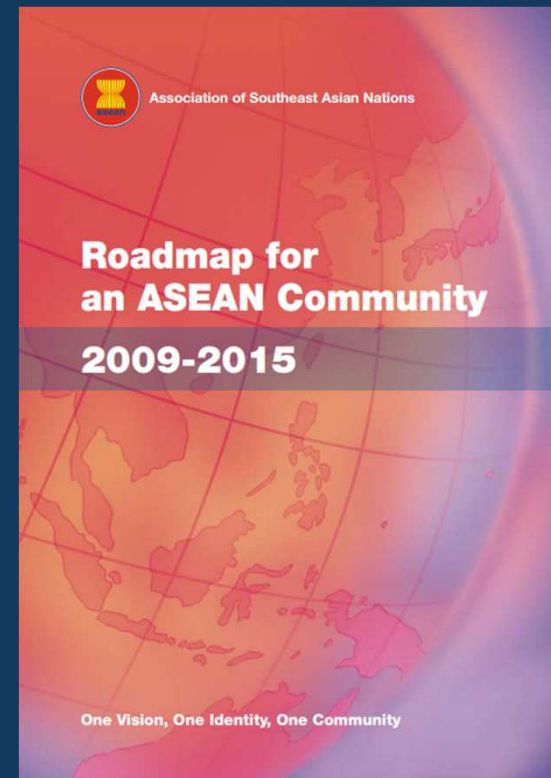
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## ASEAN Community 2015

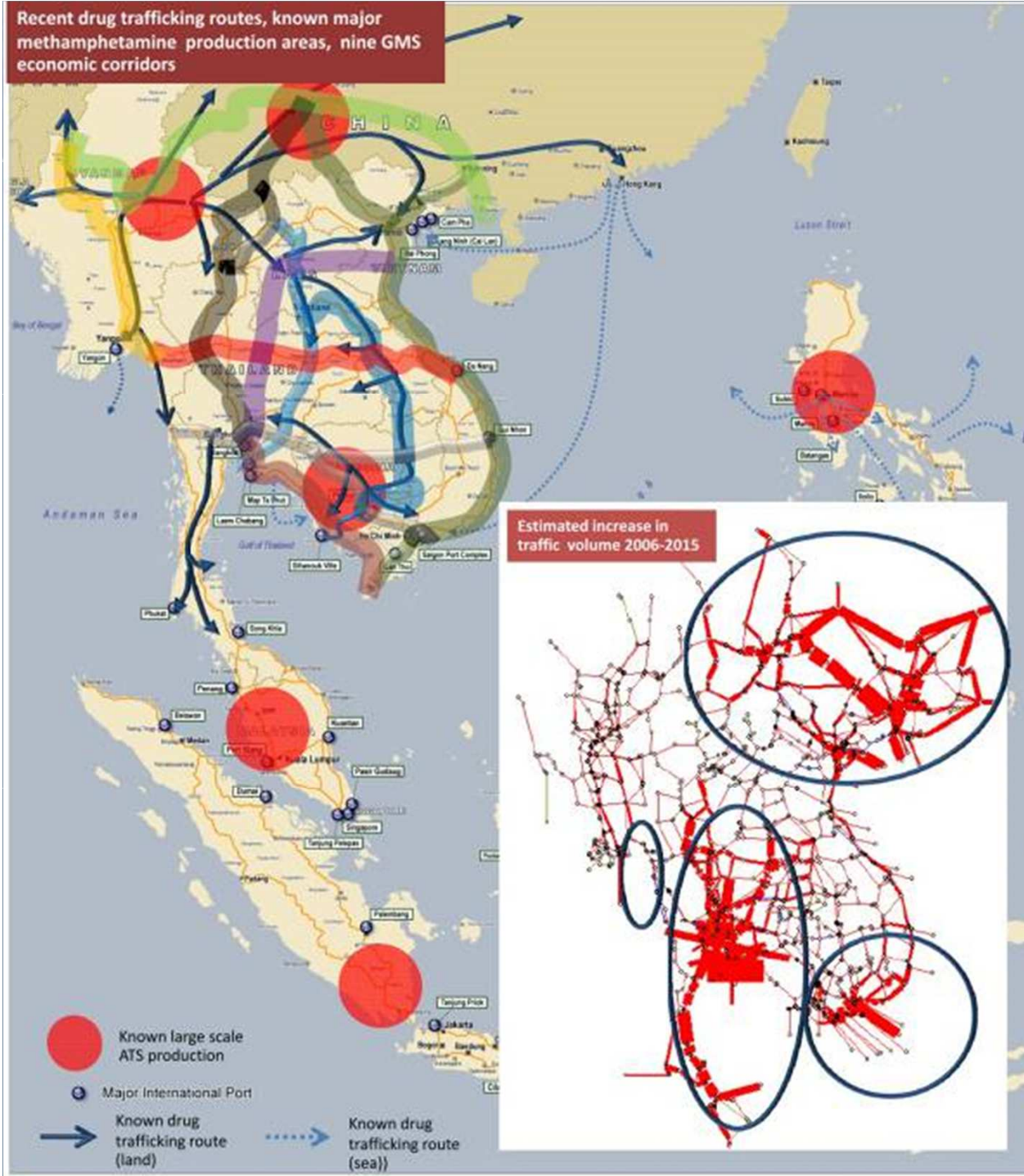
Growth comes at a cost

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



# Challenges and issues

Drug trafficking routes  
and ATS production  
areas, compared with 9  
GMS economic corridors



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## UNODC Regional Programme 2014 - 2017

Necessity – regional impact

- The first integrated regional programme
- Rapid regional consolidation – need to support frameworks and networks that align with national responses
- Improve the ability of states to respond to rule of law and security challenges
- Developed through extensive research and consultations





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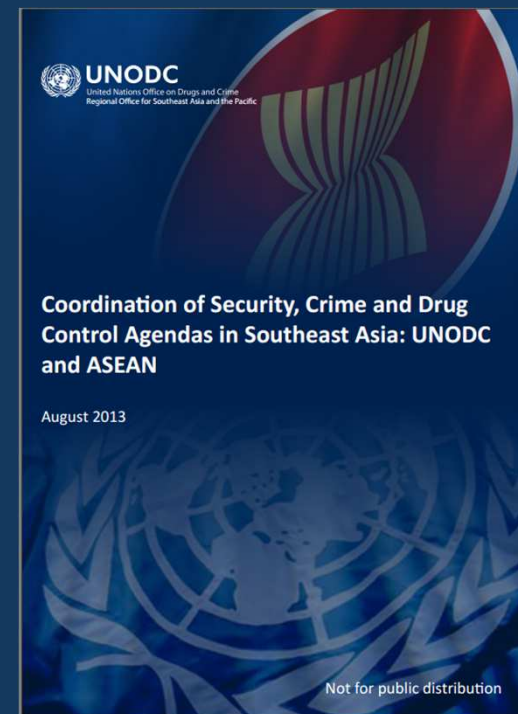
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## Mapping assistance in Southeast Asia

### Alignment to ASEAN

- A great level of intersection between UNODC mandates and the work being carried out by ASEAN sectoral bodies
- Strategic partnerships between several non-ASEAN countries and ASEAN Member States
- Necessity of augmenting ASEAN's efforts in relation to drugs and crime issues prior to the ASEAN Community 2015





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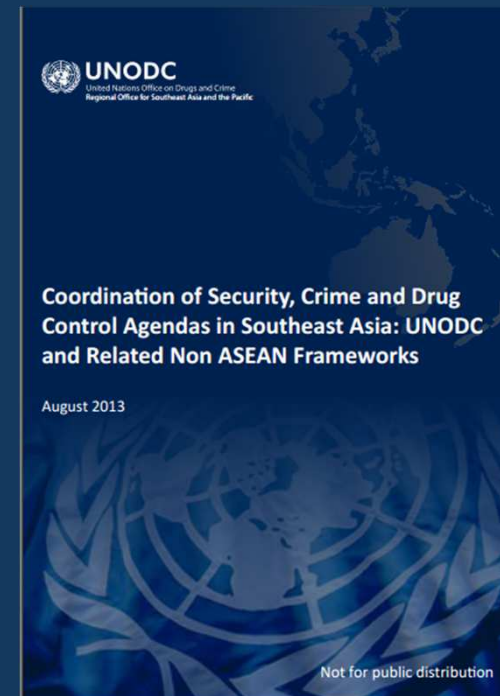
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# UNODC Regional and Country Programmes 2014 - 2017

## Alignment to Regional Coordination Mechanisms

- A great level of intersection between UNODC mandates and existing regional coordination mechanisms, including:
  - AIFOCCOM
  - Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region





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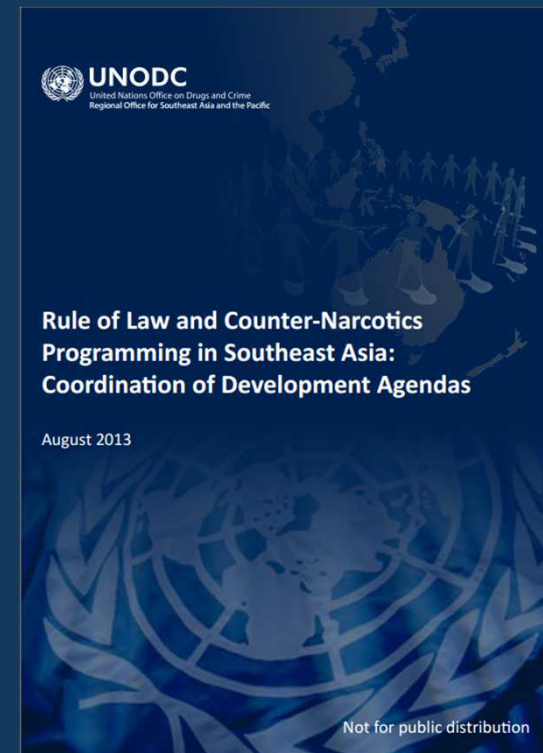
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## Mapping of rule of law and counter-narcotics assistance in Southeast Asia – key findings

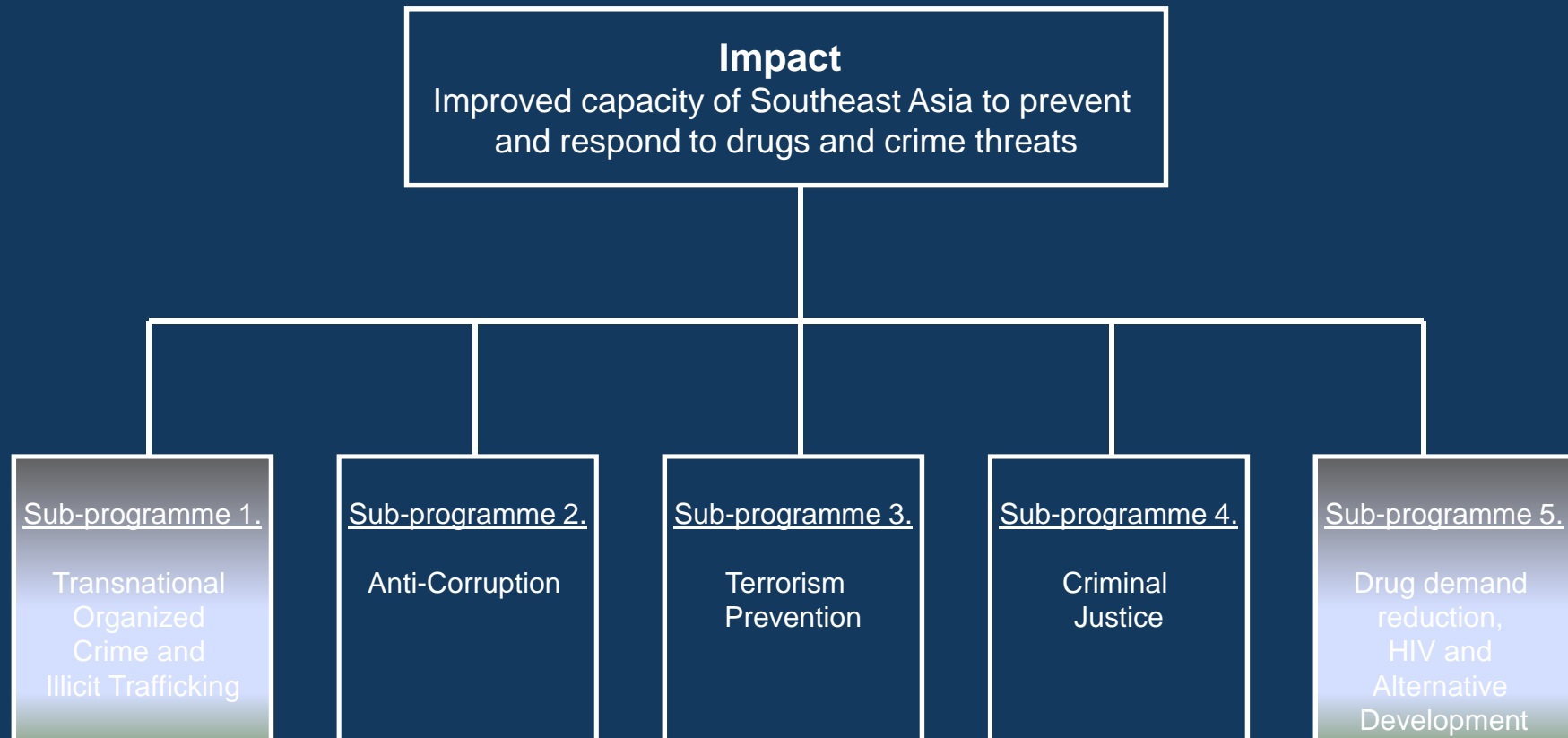
### Alignment to international partners

- Persistent threats in relation to transnational organized crime, illicit drugs, rule of law as well as health and alternative development issues
- Weak and fragmented coordination in the areas related to UNODC mandates
- Comparative advantage of the UNODC ROSEAP in coordinating and engaging with international partners who have strategic interests in the region



# UNODC Regional Programme 2014 - 2017

## Structure of the Regional Programme



Thank you

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