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**Thirty-ninth Meeting of Heads of National
Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and
the Pacific**

Bangkok, 19-22 October 2015

Item 3 of the provisional agenda**

**Major regional drug trafficking trends and
countermeasures****Statistical analysis of drug trafficking trends in East and
South-East Asia, Oceania and worldwide****Report of the Secretariat***Summary*

The present report provides an overview of the latest global trends in illicit drug production and trafficking with a focus on the Asia-Pacific region (East and South-East Asia and Oceania). The statistics and analysis in the report are based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The report presents trends in drug seizures and statistics on illicit drug crop cultivation up to 2013 and, where available, 2014.

Illicit opium poppy cultivation remains concentrated in Afghanistan where production cultivation reached record levels in 2014, while cultivation in South-East Asia increased in 2013. Seizures of opium and heroin in Asia-Pacific continued their increasing trend in 2013. Coca bush cultivation decreased in 2013 for the second consecutive year, but this trend reverted in 2014 due to an increase of coca bush cultivation in Colombia. Cocaine seizures in Asia-Pacific decreased in 2013 and remain limited in comparison with other regions. Despite a decrease in global methamphetamine seizures in 2013, seizures in Asia-Pacific increased and accounted for almost half of all global seizures that year. The cultivation of cannabis herb continues to occur in most countries worldwide and in all regions of the world, while the production of cannabis resin remains confined to a few countries.

* Available only in English, which is the working language of the subsidiary body.

** UNODC/HONLAP/39/1.



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I. Introduction

A. Purpose

1. This report provides an overview of recent trends to assist national authorities in their efforts to combat illicit drug production and trafficking, including at the subregional and regional levels. The report contains the latest developments in the production and trafficking of the main illicit drugs at a global and regional level, with a focus on East and South-East Asia and Oceania. The term “Asia-Pacific” refers to all of these regions collectively.
2. The analysis in this report is based on the latest information available to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The second section of the report covers the cultivation of illicit drug crops and the production of plant-based drugs. The third section presents statistics on seizures of cannabis, opiates, cocaine, and amphetamine-type stimulants with a specific focus on seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as other States Members of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP).
3. The information contained in this report provides Member States with an overview of trends and emerging trafficking patterns to enhance coordination of actions at subregional and regional levels.

B. Sources of information

4. UNODC publishes illicit crop-monitoring surveys on the cultivation and production of plant-based drugs. These surveys include the Afghanistan opium survey, the South-East Asia opium survey and coca cultivation surveys in Colombia, Peru and the Plurinational State of Bolivia. The section of this report entitled “Trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs” draws on the latest available published information from these surveys.
5. Part IV of the Annual Reports Questionnaire, submitted by Governments for 2013 and previous years, is the primary source for seizure statistics. Responses from countries in the Asia-Pacific region to the 2014 questionnaire have been included in the analysis, where available. Over one hundred Member States and territories, including 23 Member States¹ and two territories² in the Asia-Pacific region responded to Part IV of the 2013 Annual Reports Questionnaires. At the time of writing,³ UNODC had received 16 responses from countries and two territories in the Asia-Pacific region⁴ to Part IV of the 2013 survey. Supplementary sources of

¹ Afghanistan, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brunei Darussalam, China, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Myanmar, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

² Hong Kong and Macao (Special Administrative Regions, China).

³ August 2015.

⁴ Armenia, China, Indonesia, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, as well as Hong Kong and Macao (Special Administrative Regions of the People's Republic of China).

information include published official Government reports and reports from the UNODC Global SMART Programme.

6. Country reports from the 2014 regional meetings of the Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies⁵ are an important source of recent information. In addition to the statistics on seizures of illicit drugs, these reports often contain examples of law enforcement activities and provide insights from Member States regarding new and emerging trends.

C. Data limitations

7. Statistics on drug seizures offer valid, indirect indicators of trafficking trends. However, these statistics should be treated with caution, as they reflect different reporting practices and depend on the level and effectiveness of law enforcement capacities, which may vary between Member States and over time.

II. Trends in illicit drug crop cultivation and the production of plant-based drugs

A. Cannabis herb cultivation and the production of cannabis resin

8. Unlike other illicit crops such as coca bush and opium poppy, the cannabis plant lends itself to diverse cultivation methods and grows in a variety of environments. This makes assessing the extent of its cultivation and production difficult. Reports of cannabis cultivation, as well as eradication reports, show that a wide range of practices exist globally. Cannabis cultivation reports range from individuals growing a small number of plants for personal consumption, through to large-scale commercial operations in warehouses, on farmland and within forests. Several countries reported the ongoing cultivation of cannabis by farmers in rural areas to supplement their incomes.

9. The cultivation and production of cannabis herb continues to occur in most countries worldwide and in all regions of the world. In contrast, the large-scale production of cannabis resin remains confined to a few countries in North Africa and South-West Asia.

10. According to the latest *Cannabis Survey Report* (2012), jointly conducted by the national Ministry of Counter-Narcotics and UNODC, Afghanistan remains one of the largest producers of cannabis resin with total cannabis cultivation estimated at 10,000 hectares (ha) in 2012, down from 12,000 in 2011. However, Afghanistan produced an estimated 1,400 tons of cannabis resin, 8 per cent higher than the previous year, due to a sharp increase in the yield with respect to the previous year. In 2013, cannabis cultivation in Afghanistan remained linked to opium poppy

⁵ Primarily from country reports submitted to the Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

cultivation with 38 per cent of poppy-growing villages also reporting cannabis cultivation compared with only five per cent of non-poppy-growing villages.⁶

11. Morocco reported eradicating 5,000 ha of cannabis in 2013 and estimated that after eradication 42,000 ha remained under cannabis cultivation. Morocco reported a stable trend with regard to the area under illicit cannabis cultivation in 2013 and a decrease in the production of cannabis resin, which amounted to 700 tons (down from 760 tons in 2012).

12. In Asia-Pacific, limited information is available regarding the cultivation of cannabis. In Part IV of its 2013 annual report questionnaire, Mongolia reported an estimated total of 15,000 ha under cannabis cultivation, with 4,000 ha eradicated by the authorities. Additionally, Indonesia reported eradicating 66 and 122 ha of cannabis in 2013 and 2014, respectively. Philippines reported eradications for 52 and 28 ha in 2013 and 2014, respectively, while Viet Nam also reported the eradication of outdoor cannabis cultivation fields.⁷

B. Opium poppy cultivation

13. Afghanistan and Myanmar continued to account for the vast majority of illicit opium poppy cultivation worldwide, with almost 86 per cent of global cultivation in 2013 taking place in these two countries. Cultivation in Myanmar increased between 2006 and 2013, while cultivation in Afghanistan reached record levels in 2014.

14. According to the findings of the 2014 Afghanistan Opium Survey, opium poppy cultivation reached 224,000 ha, with cultivation increasing by 7 per cent compared with 2013. Annual estimates of the area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan have increased for four consecutive years. The majority (89 per cent) of opium cultivation took place in nine provinces in Afghanistan's Southern and Western regions. Opium poppy cultivation increased significantly in most of these provinces, with the exception of Helmand, Afghanistan's major poppy-cultivating province, where it remained stable, and Nimroz, where it decreased by 10 per cent.

15. Estimated potential opium production in Afghanistan in 2014 amounted to 6,400 tons, an increase of 17 per cent from 2013 levels (5,500 tons). The increase in production was the result of both increased cultivation and increased yield. Average opium yield amounted to 28.7 kilograms (kg) per ha in 2014, which was 9 per cent more than in 2013 (26.3 kg per ha).

16. The link between insecurity and opium cultivation in Afghanistan continued to persist in 2014. According to the United Nations Department of Safety and Security (UNDSS), the security risk in many of the provinces where poppy cultivation occurred is "high" or "extreme".

17. According to the 2013 South-East Asia opium survey, illicit opium poppy cultivation in the region covered more than 60,000 ha. After following a consistent

⁶ UNODC and Ministry of Counter-Narcotics of Afghanistan "Afghanistan Opium Survey 2013" (Vienna, December 2013).

⁷ Country report of Viet Nam, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

downward trend between 2000 and 2006, opium poppy cultivation in South-East Asia has increased at a slow but steady pace. Despite official reports of opium poppy eradication, opium poppy cultivation in South-East Asia has more than doubled since 2006. Opium poppy cultivation in Myanmar has steadily increased from 21,600 ha in 2006 to 57,800 ha in 2013.

18. In the Laos People's Democratic Republic, cultivation also steadily increased from 1,500 ha in 2007 to 6,800 ha in 2012. In 2013, cultivation of opium poppy in the Laos People's Democratic Republic was estimated at 3,900 ha.⁸ Additionally, opium poppy cultivation in Thailand was estimated at 265 ha in 2013, a 27 per cent increase with respect to the previous year (209 ha). Authorities from Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Thailand have reported a total of 12,949 ha of opium poppy eradicated in 2013, about half of the total eradicated in 2012.

19. Viet Nam reported the eradication of 24.8 ha of opium poppy cultivation in the 2012-2013 crop season, a reduction of 8 per cent with respect to the previous season. Authorities reported that plants are harvested several times every season, and operations take place mainly in remote locations within most of the Northern mountainous provinces of the country, which makes detection extremely difficult.⁹

20. India eradicated 1,332 ha of illicit opium poppy cultivated in remote areas of the country and reported a large decrease in the illicit cultivation of opium in 2013. Pakistan eradicated 568 ha of opium poppy in 2013 and a further 1,010 ha in 2014. In November 2014, Pakistan reported¹⁰ being poppy free with no opioids produced in the country.

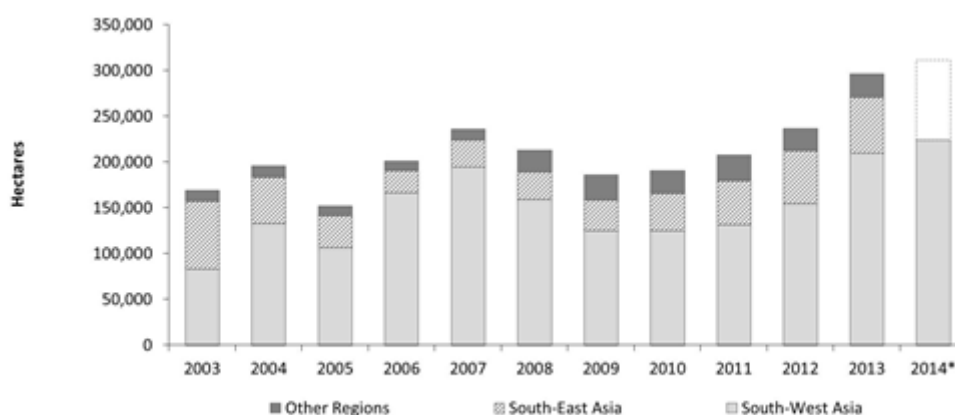
21. Only partial information about the extent of poppy cultivation and heroin production in the Americas is available, which makes analysis of the situation difficult. However, it is clear from the 2013 and 2014 Annual Report Questionnaires that heroin production occurs within the Americas and that heroin is trafficked to the region from South-West Asia. Mexico reported the eradication of 21,645 ha of opium poppy in 2014, which represents an increase of 47 per cent compared to the level recorded in 2013 (14,662 ha).

⁸ The 2013 value is not comparable with the 2012 estimate due to methodological and technical reasons.

⁹ Country report of Viet Nam, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

¹⁰ Country report of Pakistan, Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, Vienna, 10-13 November 2014.

Figure 1
Opium cultivation by region (2003-2014)¹¹
 (Hectares)



C. Coca cultivation

22. Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Colombia and Peru continued to account for virtually all cultivation of coca bush worldwide. The total area under cultivation in those three countries increased after two years of reductions, from 120,800 ha in 2013 to 132,400 ha in 2014, mainly due to a sharp increase in Colombia. The illicit extraction of cocaine alkaloids from coca leaves, a first step in the manufacture of cocaine, took place almost exclusively in those three countries, which also accounted for the majority of cocaine hydrochloride manufactured worldwide.

23. According to the 2014 national coca monitoring survey in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, cultivation of coca bush continued to decrease by around 11 per cent to 20,400 ha in 2014, the lowest level recorded since the implementation of the survey in 2003. The manual eradication of coca bush in the Plurinational State of Bolivia remained stable in 2014, reaching 11,144 ha, while seizures of coca leaf increased by 22 per cent in comparison with 2013.

24. The 2014 coca cultivation monitoring survey, jointly conducted by the Government of Colombia and UNODC, showed an increase in coca bush cultivation in Colombia of 44 per cent, amounting to a total of 69,000 ha, a change from the historical low in 2013. Despite the rise in 2014, the area under coca cultivation in Colombia has decreased significantly since 2000. In 2014, the estimated cocaine production capacity in Colombia ranged between 426 and 666 metric tons (308 to 408 metric tons in 2013).

25. During 2014, Colombian authorities destroyed a total of 2,457 laboratories for the extraction of coca paste or cocaine base, as well as 168 cocaine hydrochloride

¹¹ At the time of preparation of the present report, cultivation figures were available only for Afghanistan for 2014. The chart shows indicative global cultivation for 2014 based on cultivation in the previous year.

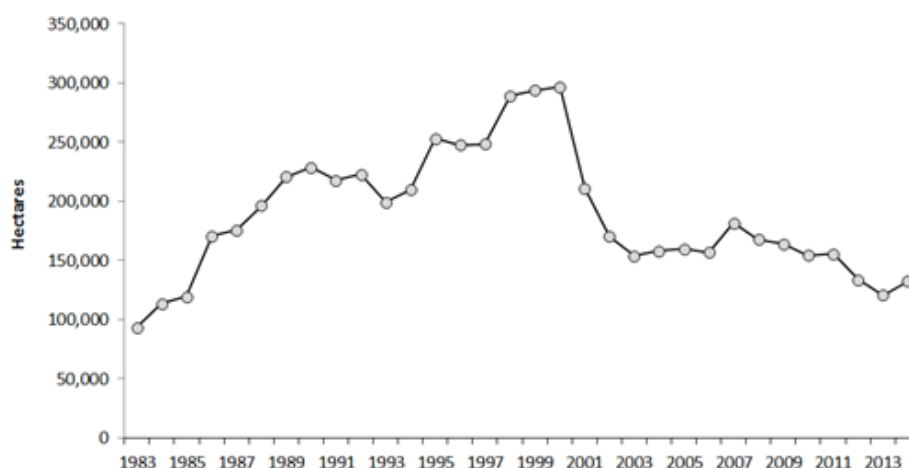
laboratories. Supply reduction activities in 2014 included the aerial spraying of over 55,000 ha of coca bush and the manual eradication of over 12,500 ha.

26. According to the 2014 national coca crop monitoring survey conducted by UNODC and the Peruvian Government, the area under coca cultivation in Peru at the end of 2014 stood at 42,900 ha, down from 49,800 ha in 2013. The authorities in Peru eradicated over 31,200 ha of coca crops in 2014, up 31 per cent from 2013. Because of the eradication efforts and the subsequent decrease in the supply of coca leaf, the average price for dried coca leaf in Peru increased by 30 per cent in 2013 and remained stable in 2014.

27. Although the manufacture of cocaine occurs mainly in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, clandestine laboratories processing coca leaf derivatives also exist outside these countries. Based on data from the 2013 Annual Reports Questionnaire, several countries in South America reported the detection of clandestine laboratories processing coca leaf derivatives including Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and Venezuela. Cocaine laboratories detected outside of South America are usually secondary extraction laboratories to separate cocaine from materials, such as clothing, used for trafficking cocaine.

Figure 2

Coca bush cultivation in Bolivia, Colombia and Peru (1983-2013)
(Hectares)



III. Trends in illicit drug trafficking

28. Table 1 shows the quantities of the major drug types seized in ESCAP Member States, and globally, according to information reported to UNODC for 2012 and 2013. Table 2 shows the totals for the Asia-Pacific region, including East Asia, South-East Asia and Oceania.

Table 1
Drug seizures in ESCAP Member States, 2012 and 2013

Drug Type	ESCAP Members Seizures			Global Seizures			ESCAP Members as a proportion of Global Total	
	2012	2013	Trend ^{a,b}	2012	2013	Variation	2012	2013
	(Kilograms)			(Kilograms)			(Percentage)	
Cannabis herb	439 446	518 898	Increase (+18%)	5 350 000	5 764 000	+8%	8.2%	9.0%
Cannabis resin	429 676	526 748	Increase (+23%)	1 269 000	1 416 000	+12%	33.9%	37.2%
Cocaine ^c	3 138	3 840	Increase ^d	671 000	687 000	+2%	0.5%	0.6%
Heroin	58 383	63 803	Stable (+9%)	71 400	77 600	+9%	81.8%	82.2%
Opium	550 996	594 917	Stable (+8%)	557 000	634 000	+14%	98.9%	93.8%
Illicit morphine	52 204	38 278	Decrease (-27%)	52 300	38 500	-26%	99.8%	99.4%
Amphetamine	1 566	3 873	Not Available ^e	21 900	32 000	46%	7.1%	12.1%
Methamphetamine	39 745	46 579	Increase (+17%)	114 000	88 000	-23%	34.9%	52.9%
“Ecstasy”	3 424	3 004	Decrease (-12%)	4 900	4 200	-14%	69.9%	71.5%

Table 2
Drug seizures in the Asia-Pacific region, 2012 and 2013

Drug Type	Asia-Pacific Seizures			Asia-Pacific as a proportion of ESCAP Member Countries		Asia-Pacific as a proportion of Global Total	
	2012	2013	Trend ^{a,b}	2012	2013	2012	2013
	(Kilograms)			(Percentage)		(Percentage)	
Cannabis herb	62 990	70 718	Increase (+12%)	14.3%	13.6%	1.2%	1.2%
Cannabis resin	139.5	142.8	Not available	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Cocaine ^c	2 542	1 868	Decrease (-27%)	81.0%	48.6%	0.4%	0.3%
Heroin	10 190	12 214	Increase (+20%)	17.5%	19.1%	14.3%	15.7%
Opium	2 775	4 220	Increase (+52%)	0.5%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%
Illicit morphine	47.2	99.5	Increase	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%
Amphetamine	128	2 078	Not available	8.2%	53.7%	0.6%	6.5%
Methamphetamine	35 775	42 732	Increase (+19%)	90.0%	91.7%	31.4%	48.6%
“Ecstasy”	2 254	1 702	Decrease (-24%)	65.8%	56.7%	46.0%	40.5%

^a Since data for 2013 were incomplete at the time of writing, the trend is estimated by comparing total seized quantities for countries and territories for which data is available for both 2012 and 2013.

^b The term “Stable” refers to an annual variation of less than 10 per cent.

^c Includes base, pastes, salts and “crack” cocaine.

^d Due to unavailability of information on seizures for Pakistan in 2012, it is not possible to calculate the regional trend accurately. However, available data suggest an increase.

^e Due to unavailability of 2012 information for countries with traditionally significant amounts of seizures.

29. In 2013, opium was the most commonly seized drug in the ESCAP member countries, following the trend observed in 2012. More than 90 per cent of globally seized opioids, including heroin, opium and illicit morphine, are confiscated in ESCAP member countries (97 per cent in 2012 and 93 per cent in 2013), mainly

in Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan. The region also contributes significantly to global seizures of “ecstasy”, methamphetamine and cannabis resin. The low proportion of global cocaine seizures in the region can be explained by its distance from the major producing areas (South America) and main consumer markets (Europe and North America).

30. The Asia-Pacific region shows different patterns from the rest of the ESCAP member countries. Most of the amphetamine-type stimulants and cocaine seizures in Asia happen in this region; while seizures of opium, illicit morphine and cannabis resin in Asia-Pacific are not significant. Seizures of opiates showed different trends in the 2012-2013 in this region with respect to the rest of the ESCAP Member States, while they increased notably in Asia-Pacific, they remained relatively stable in the rest of the region and globally.

A. Cannabis

Cannabis herb

31. Data from the Annual Report Questionnaire suggests that global cannabis herb seizures remained stable, with increasing seizures of cannabis herb in several regions offsetting decreases in North America.

32. Seizures of cannabis herb in North America have followed a decreasing trend in recent years, with seizures in the United States of America decreasing between 2009 and 2012. Seizures in Mexico have followed a similar trend, decreasing between 2010 and 2013. Despite the recent decreases, the United States and Mexico still account for the majority of global cannabis herb seizures.¹² Mexican authorities reported observing the production of cannabis herb for both local consumption and for trafficking to the United States, most commonly via land, in private vehicles or passenger buses using various methods of concealment.¹³

33. In South America, cannabis herb seizures increased sharply from 821 tons in 2012 to 1,308 tons in 2013. The increase was due to significant seizures by Paraguay¹⁴ (462 tons), Colombia (408 tons) and Brazil (222 tons).

34. Seizures of cannabis herb in Europe increased from 284 tons in 2012 to over 300 tons in 2013. The increase was primarily due to seizures in South-Eastern Europe, specifically Turkey, where seizures of cannabis herb have increased for nine consecutive years and amounted to 180 tons in 2013. In 2014, this trend may revert since Turkey reported a total of 92.5 tons of cannabis herb seized in its Annual Report Questionnaire, almost a 50 per cent decrease from 2013.

35. Annual cannabis herb seizures in Asia-Pacific increased by 12 per cent in 2013 with respect to the previous year, to 70.7 tons. This rise can be explained partially due to a sharp increase in Australia, who reported seizures for 9.4 tons in 2013, up from 2.4 tons in 2012. While total seizures in South-East Asia remained stable

¹² UNODC, *World Drug Report 2014*.

¹³ Country report of Mexico, Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asunción, 6-10 October 2014.

¹⁴ Country report of Paraguay, Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Latin America and the Caribbean, Asunción, 6-10 October 2014.

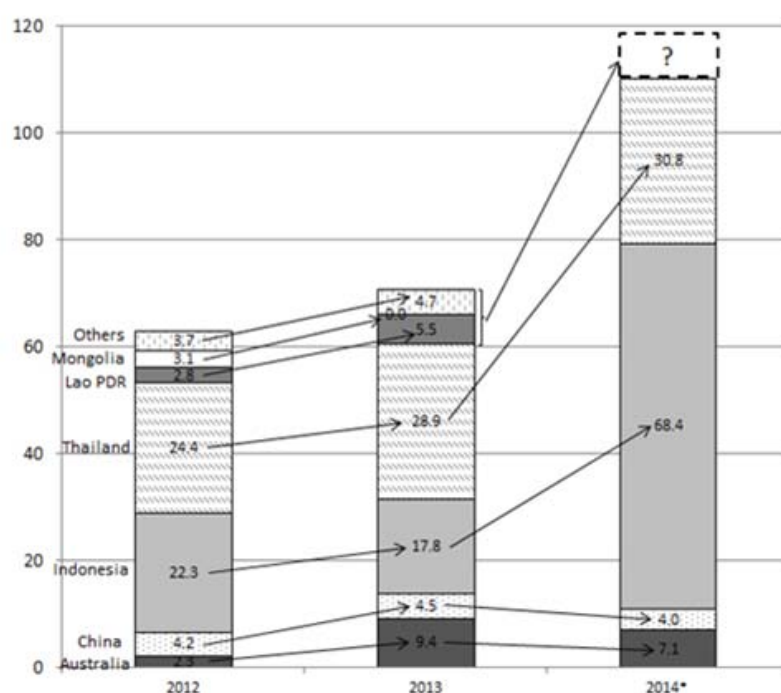
in 2012-2013, some countries showed significant changes, with Thailand reporting an increase of 4.5 tons (from 24.4 in 2012 to 28.9 in 2013) which was offset by a decrease in the same amount in Indonesia (from 22.3 tons in 2012 to 17.8 in 2013). In East Asia, most countries remained stable, except for Japan, who reported 198.1 kg of cannabis herb seized in 2013, down from 332.8 kg in 2012, and Mongolia, who reported a record high 3.1 tons seized in 2013, and 14.1 kg in 2012.

36. Figure 3 shows the cannabis herb seizures in Asia-Pacific for 2012 and 2013, as well as preliminary data for 2014. Cannabis herb seizures in 2014 are expected to rise sharply due to significant seizures reported by Indonesia in its Annual Report Questionnaire, for a total of 68.4 tons.

Figure 3

Cannabis herb seizures in Asia-Pacific, 2012, 2013 and 2014

(Metric tons)



* Year 2014 based on preliminary Annual Report Questionnaire data, with the exception of the value for Australia, which corresponds to the financial year 2013-2014.¹⁵

37. A total of eight countries in the Asia-Pacific region reported information on the origin and destination of cannabis herb seizures in their 2013 Annual Report Questionnaires. In Oceania, Australia and New Zealand reported in their country reports that domestic cannabis cultivation continues to supply their respective national markets. However, both countries also reported seizures originating mostly from European and North American countries, which were destined to supply their domestic markets. China, Mongolia and Myanmar reported all cannabis herb

¹⁵ Australian Crime Commission, *Illicit Drug Data Report 2013-2014*.

seizures as being of domestic production. Most countries in the region reported seizures that were originally destined to supply their domestic markets.

Cannabis resin

38. In contrast with cannabis herb, the production of cannabis resin is concentrated in a smaller number of countries, the most prominent of which are Afghanistan and Morocco. Consequently, seizures statistics for cannabis resin are also concentrated in and around these two source countries. The continuing shift in seizure trends suggests cannabis resin production in Afghanistan is accounting for a growing share of the global market for cannabis resin.

39. Between 1990 and 2011, Morocco reported the largest annual cannabis resin seizures among countries in North Africa and, in 2012 and 2013, Morocco continued to seize significant quantities of cannabis resin (137 tons and 107 tons respectively). Since 2012, Algeria has reported the largest annual cannabis resin seizures in North Africa with seizures amounting to 157 tons in 2012 and 212 tons in 2013. In Egypt, authorities reporting seizing cannabis resin originating in the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia.¹⁶

40. In South-Eastern Europe, Turkey reported a significant increase in cannabis resin, cannabis herb, and synthetic cannabinoids seizures in 2013. Seizures of cannabis resin in the country increased from 27,413 kg in 2012 to 94,279 kg in 2013. Authorities in Turkey reported¹⁷ that cannabis resin originating from Afghanistan is trafficked to Turkey.

41. Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, together with Turkey, account for virtually all cannabis seizures among ESCAP Member States. Pakistan reported seizing 313,736 kg of cannabis resin in 2013, which is almost double the amount seized in 2012. The Islamic Republic of Iran reported seizing 76,067 kg of cannabis resin in 2013, which represents a 28 per cent increase when compared to seizures in 2012. In 2014, cannabis resin seizures in Asia are expected to decrease, mainly due to sharp decreases in Turkey and Pakistan, as shown in figure 4.

42. According to the available Annual Report Questionnaires, virtually all cannabis resin seized in Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran is produced in Afghanistan. Estimates for cannabis resin production in Afghanistan are available for 2011 and 2012 through the 2012 Afghanistan cannabis crop survey, conducted jointly by UNODC and Afghanistan's Ministry of Counter-Narcotics. Based on these figures, in 2011 and 2012, 24 and 28 per cent of all the cannabis resin produced in Afghanistan was seized in these three countries respectively.

¹⁶ Country report of Egypt, Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, Addis Ababa, 15-19 September 2014.

¹⁷ Ministry of the Interior and Turkish National Police *Turkish Drug Report 2013* (Ankara, 2013).

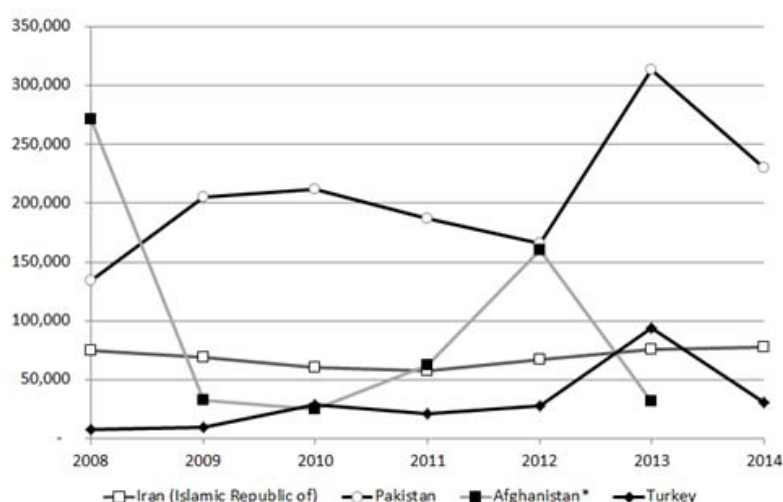
Table 3

Seizure rate for Afghanistan produced cannabis resin in the Golden Crescent,¹⁸ 2011 and 2012

	2011	2012
Total Estimated Cannabis Resin Production in Afghanistan (tons)	1 300	1 400
Total Cannabis Resin Seizures in the Golden Crescent (tons)	306	393
Seizure Rate (percentage)	24%	28%

43. In Asia-Pacific, cannabis resin seizures are relatively insignificant, accounting for less than 150 kg in 2012 and 2013. Australia, Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China) and New Zealand reported information on the origin and destination of seized cannabis resin. Australia and New Zealand reported seizures of cannabis resin coming mainly from North American and European countries such as Canada, Spain, the Netherlands or Germany, while seizures in Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region, China) originated from India, Brazil and China.

Figure 4

Cannabis resin seizures in selected countries (2008-2014)
(Kilograms)**B. Opiates****Opium**

44. After increasing at a marked pace over the 2003-2008 period and peaking in 2009 at 653 tons, global opium seizures declined in 2010 and remained stable in 2011. In 2012 and 2013, global opium seizures increased but remained below the previous peak.

¹⁸ The “Golden Crescent” includes Afghanistan, Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

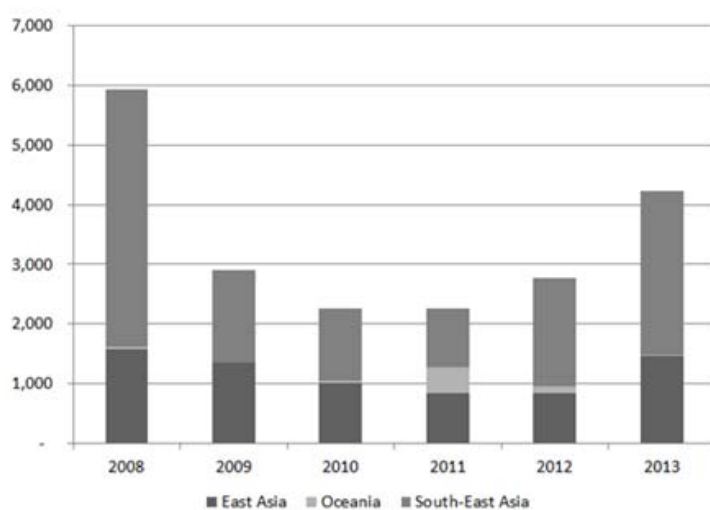
45. Since 2002, three countries — Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan — have consistently accounted for more than 90 per cent of global opium seizures each year and this trend continued in 2013. The Islamic Republic of Iran remains the country with the largest annual opium seizures. Seizures in the Islamic Republic of Iran increased by 14 per cent in 2013 and amounted to 436 tons. In Pakistan, opium seizures increased for the third consecutive year and reached 34 tons in 2013. The recent increase in opium seizures by Pakistan is consistent with reports¹⁹ of the expansion of the southern route used to traffic heroin from South-West Asia to consumer markets. Opium seizures in Afghanistan increased between March 2011 and March 2013.²⁰ The amount of opium seized, increased to 72 tons during the year from March 2012 to March 2013, up from 61 tons in the same period for 2011/2012 and 45 tons in 2010/2011.

46. India reported seizing 2,333 kg of opium in 2013, a 55 per cent decrease from the 3,625 kg seized in 2012. Indian authorities reported seizing a further 3,994 kg of opium during the first eight months of 2014 and noted the suspected diversion of opium from licit cultivation and the local production of low quality heroin.²¹

47. In Asia-Pacific, China and Myanmar account for the majority of opium seizures, with sharp increases in both countries in 2013 with respect to the previous year. Chinese authorities reported 1,464 kg of opium seized in 2013, up from 845 kg in 2012. Myanmar reported a total of 2,357 kg of opium seized in 2013, up from 1,470 in 2012. Chinese and Indian authorities identified Myanmar as the main producer of the opium seized in their respective countries.

Figure 5

Opium seizures in Asia-Pacific (2008-2013)
(Kilograms)



¹⁹ UNODC, *World Drug Report 2014*.

²⁰ Ministry of Counter Narcotics of Afghanistan, *Afghanistan Drug Report 2012* (November 2013).

²¹ Country report of India, Subcommittee on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, Vienna, 10-13 November 2014.

48. In 2014, the Islamic Republic of Iran reported a total of more than 393 tons seized, a decrease of 10 per cent with respect to 2013. Iranian authorities reported a further 230 tons of opium seized in the first six months of 2015. Pakistan reported an increase of 38 per cent in opium seizures in 2014, with a total of almost 47 tons. In Asia-Pacific, China reported a total of 1,741 kg of opium seized in 2014, an increase of 19 per cent with respect to 2013.

Illicit morphine

49. As was the case with opium, seizures of morphine continued to be concentrated in Afghanistan and its neighbouring countries. Every year from 2005 onwards, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan together accounted for more than 90 per cent of global morphine seizures. In the Islamic Republic of Iran, seizures increased by 49 per cent in 2013 to 10.4 tons.²²

50. Illicit morphine seizures in Pakistan increased from 1.4 tons in 2012 to 3.8 tons in 2013. Pakistan reported that 100 per cent of the illicit morphine seizures originated from Afghanistan and no changes had been observed in the origin, transportation methods, or trafficking routes in 2013.

51. Seizures of illicit morphine in Afghanistan decreased to 24 tons in 2013, down from 44 tons in 2012. Despite the 2013 decrease, seizures of illicit morphine in Afghanistan remain significantly above the levels observed between 2003 and 2010, when annual seizures averaged 2.4 tons. The increased levels of illicit morphine seizures in Afghanistan, observed between 2011 and 2013, may indicate a growing presence of morphine in the country and possibly signal a shift in manufacturing trends.²³

52. Illicit morphine seizures in Asia-Pacific represent less than 0.5 per cent of all illicit morphine seizures in ESCAP Member States. Seizures in 2013 in Asia-Pacific more than doubled with respect to 2012, with increases in all countries and territories that reported seizures within the region: Myanmar, Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China), Mongolia, New Zealand, Australia, Japan and Singapore.

Heroin

53. Compared to opium and illicit morphine, heroin seizures cover a much wider range of countries. Several countries reported increasing seizures trafficked via the “Southern route” where heroin is trafficked southward from Afghanistan, through either Pakistan or the Islamic Republic of Iran, targeting Asia and Europe often via African countries or maritime routes. Significant seizures continue to occur on the “Balkan route” where heroin is trafficked to Western and Central Europe overland via South-Eastern Europe. The “Northern route” continues to link heroin from Afghanistan to markets in the Russian Federation.²⁴

²² Islamic Republic of Iran, Drug Control Headquarters, *Drug Control in 2013*.

²³ *Afghanistan Drug Report (2012)*, Afghanistan Ministry of Counter Narcotics, November 2013.

²⁴ *The illicit drug trade through South-Eastern Europe*, March 2014, UNODC.

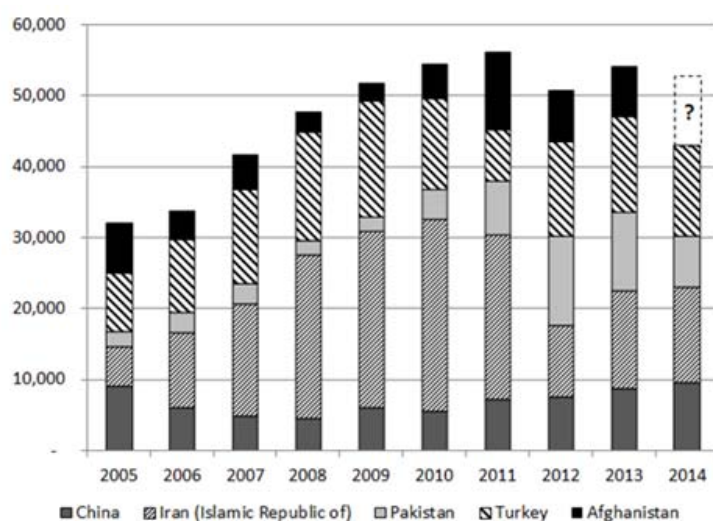
54. Kenya reported²⁵ that heroin traffickers are increasingly using African countries, particularly those in East Africa, to ship drugs to Europe and other regions. In the United Republic of Tanzania, authorities reported significant increases in heroin seizures between 2010 and 2012 and indicated that drug traffickers are using alternative trafficking methods in 2013, such as: reducing the amount of heroin trafficked in each consignment and sending a larger number of small packages.

55. In 2013, heroin seizures in South-Eastern Europe increased slightly in comparison with 2012, although remained below the levels observed in the region between 2007 and 2009. In West and Central Europe, seizures of heroin in most countries either remained stable or continued to gradually decline in line with the established trend.

Figure 6

Heroin seizures in selected countries (2005-2014)

(Kilograms)



56. Five ESCAP Member States accounted for 70 per cent of global heroin seizures in 2012 and 2013: Afghanistan, China, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Pakistan and Turkey. Heroin seizures in Afghanistan have increased in recent years amounting to 11 tons in 2011 and 7 tons in 2012 and 2013, significantly above the average of 3 tons seized during the decade preceding 2011.

57. Heroin seizures in Pakistan remained near record levels in 2013 and amounted to over 11 tons. Authorities reported that the drug situation in Afghanistan has a direct bearing on Pakistan and estimated that 44 per cent of Afghan heroin transits through Pakistan.²⁶ In the Islamic Republic of Iran, despite an increase in 2013, the general trend has been opposite to that of Afghanistan and Pakistan, with

²⁵ Country report of Kenya, Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, Addis Ababa, 15-19 September 2014.

²⁶ Country report of Pakistan, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

heroin seizure levels in recent years remaining lower than those observed in the 2007-2011 period. In Turkey, heroin seizures remained stable at 13.5 tons in 2013.

58. The Islamic Republic of Iran and Pakistan reported in their Annual Report Questionnaires that the majority of their seizures corresponded to heroin produced in Afghanistan. Similarly Turkish authorities cite heroin production in Afghanistan as the source of most of the heroin they have seized, destined for onward passage to Europe or North America.²⁷

59. Similar to heroin seized in the Golden Crescent and Turkey, illicit morphine shows a similar trend. Since the Afghanistan Opium Survey, conducted jointly by UNODC and Afghanistan's Ministry of Counter-Narcotics, presents estimates for the production of heroin and illicit morphine together, it is possible to obtain a joint seizure rate for heroin and illicit morphine produced in Afghanistan, as shown in table 4.²⁸ Results show that 33 and 18 per cent of the estimated total heroin and illicit morphine production in Afghanistan in 2012 and 2013, respectively, is seized in the Golden Crescent and Turkey.

Table 4

Seizure rate of Afghanistan produced heroin and illicit morphine, based on seizures in Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and Turkey

<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Heroin and Illicit Morphine Seizures in the Golden Crescent and Turkey (Kilograms)</i>	<i>Total Estimated Heroin and Illicit Morphine Production in Afghanistan (Kilograms)</i>	<i>Joint Seizure Rate (Percentage)</i>
2009	69 180	561 000	12%
2010	61 429	269 000	23%
2011	113 209	348 000	33%
2012	87 996	264 000	33%
2013	76 507	421 000	18%

60. In Asia-Pacific, seizures of heroin increased for the third consecutive year amounting to 12.2 tons in 2013. China continued to account for the majority of heroin seizures in the region, with annual seizures of 8.6 tons in 2013, up from 7.3 tons in 2012. Authorities from China reported²⁹ that northern Myanmar remained the main source of heroin in the Chinese market, with more than 92 per cent of heroin seizures in China coming from this country, but also noted an increase in seizures of opiates originating from Afghanistan. In 2012 and 2013, Myanmar-produced heroin seized in China represented between 10 and 12 per cent of the estimated total heroin production in Myanmar.

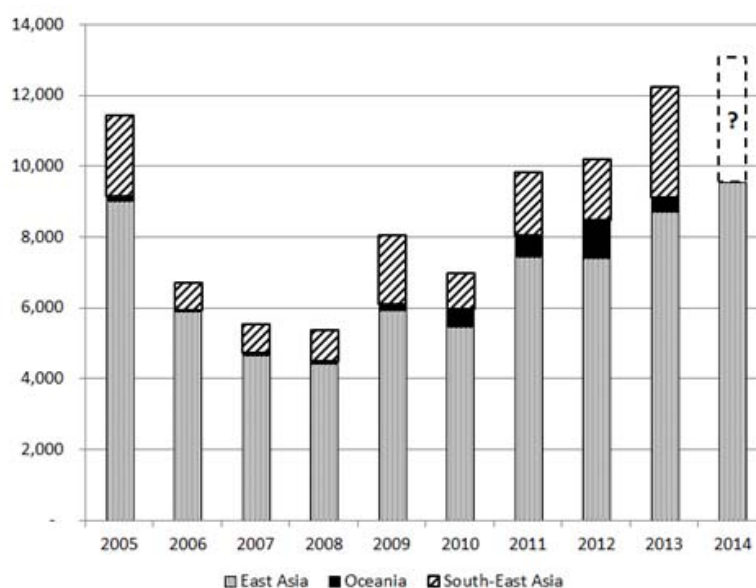
61. In South-East Asia, almost 80 per cent of heroin seizures in the region in 2013 occurred in Viet Nam, Malaysia and Thailand, with these three countries reporting sharp increases with respect to 2012. In Oceania, Australia reported 429 kg of heroin seized in 2013, down from 1,090 kg in 2012.

²⁷ 2013 National Report to the EMCCDA, Ministry of the Interior, Turkey National Police.

²⁸ Heroin only seizure rates are not presented due to the impossibility to estimate heroin production separate from morphine production in Afghanistan.

²⁹ Country report of China, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

Figure 7
Heroin seizures in Asia-Pacific, 2005-2014
 (Kilograms)



62. In South Asia, heroin seizures in Sri Lanka amounted to a record 350 kg in 2013, up from 33 kg in 2012. While in India, heroin seizures increased to 1,450 kg, which is the highest annual amount reported since 1995. In 2014, India reported 841 kg of heroin seized.

63. In 2014, China reported the highest annual heroin seizures in the last ten years at 9.4 tons, while Viet Nam recorded 479 kg during the first half of the year, and Thailand reported a sharp decrease in heroin seizures.³⁰

C. Cocaine

64. The main consumer markets for cocaine in the world, namely North America and Western and Central Europe, continued to be supplied by cocaine originating in South America, notably the Andean region. Cocaine from the Andean region is trafficked northwards to North America and across the Atlantic to Europe via the Caribbean or Africa.

65. South America continued to account for the majority of global cocaine seizures and cocaine seizures in the region remained at essentially the same level as 2012. In 2013, Colombia again reported the largest annual cocaine seizures by a single country worldwide. Seizures of cocaine base, paste and salts in Colombia decreased from 243 tons in 2012 to 226 tons in 2013.

66. In 2013, seizures of cocaine decreased in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Peru and Venezuela. In the Plurinational State of Bolivia, cocaine seizures were at

³⁰ Country presentation, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

the lowest level since 2007 and the number of clandestine laboratories manufacturing cocaine hydrochloride destroyed increased. Seizures of cocaine paste in Peru peaked in 2012, but decreased to 10.8 tons in 2013, while seizures of cocaine salt rose slightly to 13.3 tons in 2013. In Venezuela, cocaine seizures decreased to 20.5 tons in 2013 (from 27.6 tons in 2012). According to authorities in Venezuela, the country remains a transit point for cocaine, particularly trafficked by air in private aircraft.

67. In 2013, countries in both Europe and North America listed Central America and the Caribbean as a transit and departure point for cocaine. During 2013, the two largest reported annual cocaine seizures in Central America and the Caribbean occurred in Panama (41 tons) and Costa Rica (20 tons). Trafficking patterns in Central America appear to be relatively stable, with these two countries also seizing the largest quantities of cocaine in the region during 2012.

68. In North America, cocaine seizures decreased between 2007 and 2012 and data suggest a continued decrease in the availability of cocaine in the region, mainly due to the effort of law enforcement, conflict between transnational criminal groups and decreasing production rates in South America.³¹ In 2012, Mexico reported seizing 3.4 tons of cocaine, which is the lowest level reported by the country since 1985. In 2013, cocaine seizures increased in Mexico to 6.1 tons, but seizures remain below those reported in the 10 years prior to 2011.

69. A secondary route for cocaine trafficked across the Atlantic to Europe involved the use of countries in Africa, notably West Africa, as transit countries. Nigeria reported the seizure of 209 kg of cocaine in 2013, while Ghana reported a record 901 kg. Between 2010 and 2012, reported cocaine seizures in Eastern Africa increased significantly, notably in the United Republic of Tanzania. At the same time, however, cocaine seizures in the United Republic of Tanzania decreased from 215 kg in 2012 to 3 kg in 2013. Authorities reported that, since 2013, drug traffickers have been trafficking cocaine in smaller amounts to avoid detection.³²

70. In most parts of Eastern Europe, and South-East Europe, Asia and Oceania the availability of cocaine remains limited, when compared with other types of illicit drugs. However, seizure data shows that cocaine traffickers continue to target specific parts of the region.

71. Cocaine seizures in ESCAP Member States increased notably in 2013, mainly due to a single one-ton seizure by the Pakistani government in July, in a joint effort with Belgian authorities. However, in the last decade cocaine seizures among ESCAP Member States have been concentrated in the Asia-Pacific region, where a sharp decrease was reported in 2013 following significant reductions reported by Australia and Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China). Australia reported seizing 996 kg of cocaine in 2013 (down from 1,587 in 2012), while Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China) recorded 472 kg (743 kg in 2012). Additionally, Japan reported a record 124 kg of cocaine seized in 2013.

³¹ United States Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Agency. *2013 National Drug Threat Assessment*.

³² Country report of the United Republic of Tanzania, Twenty-fourth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Africa, Addis Ababa, 15-19 September 2014.

D. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS)

72. Amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) can be broadly classified into amphetamines (which includes amphetamine and methamphetamine) and “ecstasy”-type substances.³³ Unlike seizure data for plant-based drugs, the collection of quality ATS seizure data relies heavily on the proper identification and classification of seized controlled substances.

73. Between 2010 and 2012, seizures of ATS increased rapidly, with total ATS seizures rising by more than 80 per cent to more than 135 tons in 2012. The increase of ATS seizures is primarily attributable to the growing amount of global methamphetamine seizures, which have more than doubled over the same period, reaching 107 tons in 2012. The growing importance of methamphetamine is a new feature of the global ATS market. The high level of global methamphetamine seizures in recent years has been primarily due to the rise of seizures in East and South-East Asia and North America.³⁴ Global seizures of ATS stabilized in 2013, due in part to a large decrease in methamphetamine seizures reported by Mexico.

Methamphetamine

74. The regions of East and South-East Asia and North America account for the majority of global methamphetamine seizures and the illicit manufacture of methamphetamine has traditionally been concentrated close to these consumer markets. However, it has recently also spread to other countries, where diverse methods of manufacture are used.³⁵

75. Mexico seized a total of 14.7 tons of methamphetamine in 2013 representing a decrease of 56 per cent compared to 2012 (33.2 tons). Mexican authorities reported that the methamphetamine is usually trafficked by land and mainly destined for North America.

76. In the United States, seizures of methamphetamine increased steadily from 5.2 tons in 2007 to 29.2 tons in 2012. According to authorities, methamphetamine is both trafficked into the United States and, to a lesser extent, manufactured domestically.³⁶

77. Despite a sharp decrease in global methamphetamine seizures, seizures in Asia-Pacific in 2013 have increased for the fifth consecutive year. As a result, the global share of this region on global methamphetamine seizures has grown from 28 per cent in 2011 to 49 per cent in 2013, after decreasing sharply between 2007 and 2011 as shown in figure 8.

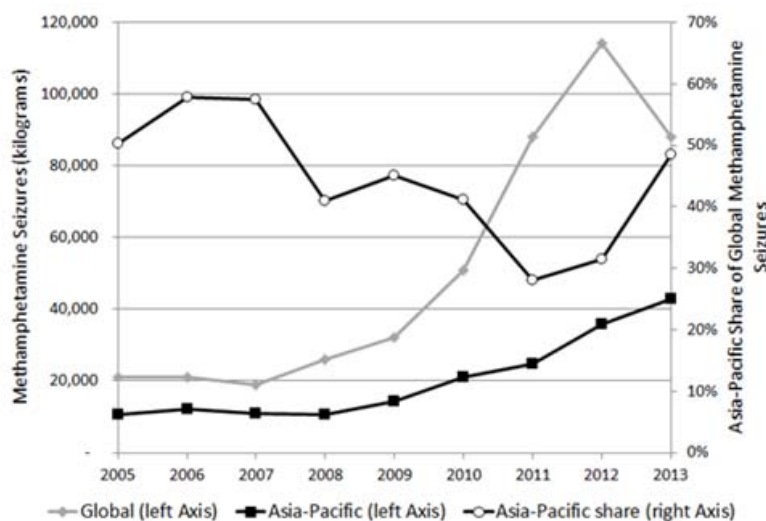
³³ Including MDMA (3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine).

³⁴ Global SMART Programme, *Global Synthetic Drug Assessment*, 2014.

³⁵ Global SMART Programme, *Global Smart Update (September 2014)*.

³⁶ United States of America, ARQ 2012, Part IV, Question 24.

Figure 8

Global and Asia-Pacific methamphetamine seizures, 2005-2013

78. East and South-East Asia has some of the largest and most established markets for amphetamine-type stimulants in the world, with nine countries reporting more than 500 kg of methamphetamine seized in 2013 (see table 5) and most of them recording increases with respect to 2012. In 2013, China seized 19.5 tons of methamphetamine (16.2 in 2012) and reported both domestic manufacture and the trafficking of methamphetamine into the country from northern Myanmar.³⁷ In Thailand, methamphetamine is trafficked to the country in tablet form for domestic use, and in crystal form for both domestic use and onward trafficking.

79. Japan reported³⁸ that crystal methamphetamine is the most widely abused drug in the country, followed by cannabis. Methamphetamine trafficking cases to Japan have increased steadily since 2010, with seizures reaching 847 kg in 2013 (up from 467 kg in 2012). In Oceania, Australia and New Zealand reported in 2013 that the majority of their seizures correspond to methamphetamine originated in either China or Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China), or in Canada.

³⁷ Country report of China, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

³⁸ Country report of Japan, Thirty-eighth Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific, Bangkok, 21-24 October 2014.

Table 5
Methamphetamine seizures in selected countries in Asia-Pacific, 2012 and 2013
 (Kilograms)

<i>Country</i>	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>Trend</i>
China	16 164	19 518	Increase (+21%)
Thailand	10 160	11 855	Increase (+17%)
Australia	2 268	4 619	Increase (+104%)
Malaysia	899	1 754	Increase (+95%)
Lao People's Democratic Republic	906	1 384	Increase (53%)
Myanmar	2 243	1 090	Decrease (-51%)
Japan	467	847	Increase (+81%)
Philippines	112	838	Increase (+647%)
Indonesia	2 052	543	Decrease (-74%)

80. The Islamic Republic of Iran reported that methamphetamine seizures amounted to 3.9 tons in 2011, 3.4 tons in 2012 and 3.7 tons in 2013.

81. At the time of writing, ten ESCAP member countries had reported annual methamphetamine seizures in their 2014 Annual Report Questionnaires, nine of them in the Asia-Pacific region. Methamphetamine seizures in China have been increasing steadily since 2010, with 2014 a record 27 tons reported; while Indonesia more than doubled their methamphetamine seizures in 2014 with respect to the previous year, with 1.1 tons. Japan and Philippines recorded decreases of 32 and 14 per cent, respectively, in methamphetamine seizures in 2014 with respect to 2013. In addition, Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China) reported the highest annual seizure on record, with 1,027 kg of methamphetamine seized in 2014.

Amphetamine

82. In 2013, global seizures of amphetamine remained concentrated in the Near and Middle East/South West Asia where amphetamine is trafficked primarily in the form of Captagon tablets.

83. Saudi Arabia continued to seize the largest quantities of amphetamine by a single country, with Saudi Customs reporting³⁹ the seizure of 39.7 million pills in 2013, up from 34.3 million pills in 2012. Jordan (22.5 million pills) and the Syrian Arab Republic (6.1 million pills) also reported significant Captagon seizures in 2013. Turkey seized 4.5 million Captagon tablets in 2013 and reported on cooperation with Saudi Arabian and Bulgarian authorities to counter amphetamine trafficking.⁴⁰ In 2013, most European countries reported seizing similar quantities of amphetamine to the previous year with seizures in the region amounting to 8.3 tons (7.4 tons in 2012).

84. In Asia-Pacific, the vast majority of amphetamine seizures in 2013 took place in Myanmar and Thailand, who reported 643 and 1,341 kg respectively. Due to the

³⁹ *Saudi Customs Annual Report 2013*, Fifth Chapter, Table (5-1).

⁴⁰ Country report of Turkey, Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East, Vienna, 10-13 November 2014.

unavailability of information on these two countries for 2012, it is not possible to obtain a trend for the 2012-2013 period. Amphetamine seizures in Australia continued to decrease for the second consecutive year in 2013, reaching 74 kg in 2013, compared to the peak of 729 kg in 2011.

“Ecstasy”-type substances

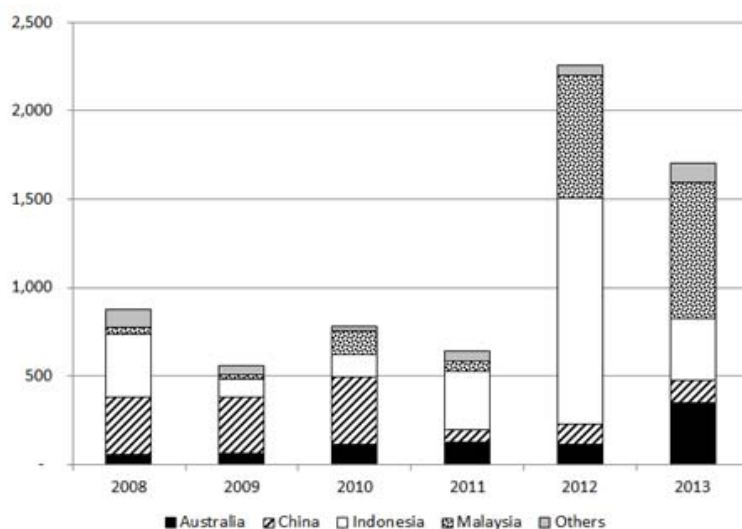
85. According to a recent report from the UNODC Global SMART Programme,⁴¹ in many regions of the world, a large proportion of seized pills marketed as “ecstasy” contain substances other than MDMA. There has developed a trend in recent years of selling new psychoactive substances as “ecstasy”.

86. In 2013, seizures of “ecstasy”-type substances were concentrated in West and Central Europe and South-East Europe.

87. While annual “ecstasy” seizures in Asia-Pacific decreased by 24 per cent in 2013 with respect to 2012 reaching 1,702 kg, this quantity remains notably above the average of 711 kg for the 2008-2011 period. This increase in the level has been driven mostly by a sharp rise in “ecstasy” seizures in Malaysia since 2012, with also reported increases in Indonesia (notably in 2012) and Australia over the period. China on the other hand has shown a decreasing trend over the 2008-2013 period, which appears to continue for 2014 with a reported 49 kg of “ecstasy” seized. Figure 9 shows the trend within the period for these four countries and for Asia-Pacific as a whole.

Figure 9

“Ecstasy”-type substances seizures in Asia-Pacific, 2008-2013 (Kilograms)



⁴¹ *Global Synthetic Drug Assessment*, 2014, Global SMART Programme.

IV. Conclusions

88. The cultivation of cannabis continues in most countries worldwide and in all regions of the world, while the production of cannabis resin remains confined to a few countries. Globally, cannabis herb seizures remained stable in 2013, while seizures of cannabis resin increased due to increased seizures in North Africa, South-Eastern and West and Central Europe. Cannabis herb seizures in Asia-Pacific increased by 12 per cent in 2013 with respect to 2012, mainly due to a sharp increase in Australia, and are expected to continue to increase in 2014 due to a significant amount seized reported by Indonesia.

89. Annual estimates of the area under opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan increased for the fourth consecutive year in 2014, reaching record levels. Potential opium production in Afghanistan also increased in 2014. In South-East Asia, opium cultivation is concentrated in Myanmar and the area under cultivation continued to increase in 2013. Global seizures of opium and illicit morphine remain concentrated in Afghanistan and neighbouring countries, while heroin seizures cover a wider geographic area. The 2013 data show an increase in the seizure of opiates trafficked from Afghanistan via the “southern route” and there has been an increased focus on this route by law enforcement in several regions. In Asia-Pacific, heroin seizures increased in 2013 for the third consecutive year. Additionally, China reported in 2014 the highest annual amount of heroin seized in the last ten years.

90. Three Andean countries continue to account for virtually all cultivation of coca bush worldwide and the total area under coca bush cultivation decreased further in 2013. South America continued to account for the majority of global cocaine seizures and cocaine seizures in the region remained stable. In North America, the availability of cocaine continues to decline. African countries, particularly those in West Africa, remain transit points for cocaine trafficked to consumer markets. In most parts of Eastern Europe, South-East Europe, Asia and Oceania the availability of cocaine remains limited. Cocaine seizures in Asia-Pacific decreased sharply in 2013 with respect to 2012, due to significant reductions in Australia and Hong Kong (Special Administrative Region of China).

91. After rapidly increasing up to 2012, global seizures of amphetamine-type stimulants stabilized in 2013. The regions of North America and East and South-East Asia continue to account for the majority of global methamphetamine seizures and seizures in East and South-East Asia remain at record levels, with a growing share for South-East Asia in recent years. Global seizures of amphetamine are concentrated in the Near and Middle East/South-West Asia, where authorities continue to seize significant quantities of Captagon tablets. Despite a decrease in 2013, which followed a sharp increase in 2012, South-East Asia and Turkey continue to account for the majority of global “ecstasy”-type substances seizures.