

and eradication of the poppy crop, which has caused tensions between and among local people, the government and the coalition. The removal of farmers' livelihoods, with no significant incentive or replacement livelihood programme, runs counter to efforts to win 'hearts and minds' in many areas. The Taliban capitalise on this contradiction in coalition approaches by championing the cause of the farmers, at the same time protecting those (including themselves) who profit from the opium and heroin trade. Last year the UN reported that 4,500 tonnes of opium had been produced in Afghanistan, sufficient for 450 tonnes

of heroin, almost 90% of world supply. With poppy cultivation in 2006 reported to have increased significantly, heroin production will also rise.

## SOUTH ASIA

### Pakistan

On 5 September 2006 Pakistan signed a controversial peace accord with tribal elders and pro-Taliban militants in North Waziristan, amidst mounting criticism that it was not doing enough to neutralise al-Qaeda or resurgent Taliban forces in the lawless areas along

MAP 3 AFGHANISTAN

