



ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



ASEAN-NARCO
ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center





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ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center

Edited by:

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August 2023

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Foreword

The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022 is the eighth publication of the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN) since the first ADM report was launched in 2016 at the 37th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) in Bangkok, Thailand. The significance of the ADMN is the cooperation of ASEAN Member States in collecting data for the monitoring of Illicit drug trends in ASEAN region and ASEAN Member States. The uniqueness of the ADMN is all ASEAN Member States key in their data on illicit drug situation in their countries that will be shared among ASEAN Member States through the ADM Report System of the ASEAN Drug Cooperation Centre (ASEAN-NARCO) and annual ADM Report that is owned by ASEAN Member States. The ADMN is a project under the management of ASEAN-NARCO supported by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) which provides a platform for sharing information that is analyzed on regional drug situation and presents a national perspective and incorporate innovative approaches to identify and monitor the emerging trend of illicit drugs problems. The ADM Report describes illicit drug trends, drug use, and emerging topics which are available in print and on the ASEAN-NARCO website. ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022 presents a comprehensive overview of ASEAN's latest illicit drug situation

by focusing on the demand and supply of illicit drug encountering the ASEAN region.

The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022 presents an intensive analysis of the latest illicit drug situation in ASEAN in terms of the demand and supply of illicit drugs encountered in the region, illicit drug trafficking, and illicit drug abuse/use remain a significant problem in ASEAN. The pandemic of the COVID-19 has continued going up in 2022 which affected the drug situation with direct and indirect impacts on ASEAN Member States' drug control. Across ASEAN's total population, 83.9 drug users were treated per 100,000 in 2022, which decreased by 7.5% from 2021. Of these, two-thirds were ATS users, opiate/opioids users accounted for 15%, 3.5% were cannabis users and 12% were polydrug users. 567,609 drug users in ASEAN were treated in 2022. Thailand had the highest number of ATS users' treatment, followed by Malaysia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, and Singapore. Treatment of opiates/opioids was the highest in Malaysia followed by Thailand. Treatment of cannabis was the highest in Thailand, followed by Malaysia and Indonesia. While a few were recorded on NPS, hallucinogens, CNS depressants, and cocaine treatment.

ATS-related crimes were most reported by all ASEAN Member States, particularly

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methamphetamine, both tablet and crystalline forms. Cannabis seizures were predominantly higher than other drugs. In 2022, over 7,300 metric tons of cannabis were seized, a 19.1% increase from 2021 while over 150 metric tons of ATS were seized in 2021, a 13.6% decrease from 2021. It was noted that precursors significantly increased from 2021. In 2022, Toluene was the precursor seized at less than one kilogram. Caffeine was 38.3 kilograms. The unclassified substances (Acetone, Sulfuric Acid, Sodium Ethoxide, etc.) were 11.6 tons. The number of drug crimes committed by foreign nationals in ASEAN region in 2022 were 63,077 foreign nationals which dramatically increased from 2021, 97.9% of these offenders were Southeast Asian nationals – the remaining 73 nationals were from other Asian and European countries including Africa and America.

Data collected by ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Team through the questionnaire

was analyzed with the collaboration of the Administrative Committee on Substance Academic Network of Thailand that coordinated with national Drug Monitoring Focal Points of ASEAN Member States in order to formulate the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022. The ADM Report 2022 was presented and launched at the 8th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drugs (AMMD) hosted by Lao PDR on 9-12 August 2023. The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022, the same as the previous reports, represents the collective work of ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Team of ASEAN Member States. The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Team looks forward to maintaining the cooperation among the ADMN Teams of ASEAN Member States and to improving the ADM Report System to better serve the data collection and ADM Report in the coming year.

"Securing ASEAN Communities Against Illicit Drugs"

ASEAN Drug Monitoring Team
August 2023

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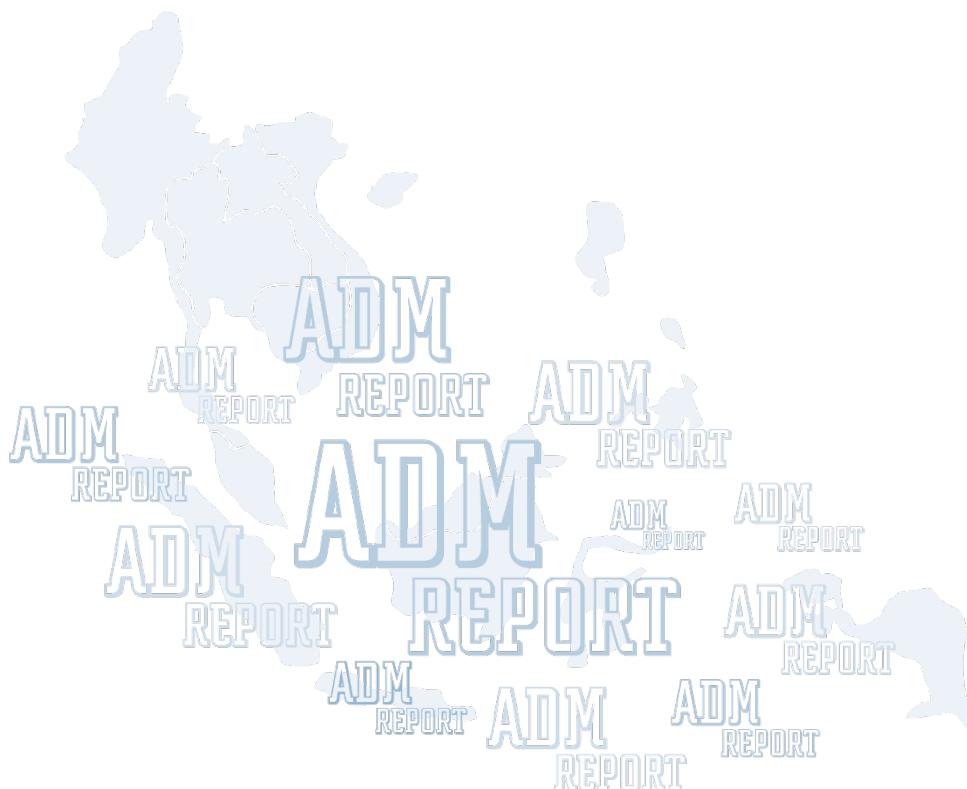
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CHAPTER 1

Overview of ASEAN Drug Trends and Patterns



1. BACKGROUND

Southeast Asia is the southeastern region of Asia, consisting of the geographically south of China, east of India, and northwest of Australia. Southeast Asia is divided into two subregions: Mainland Southeast Asia and Maritime Southeast Asia. The mainland includes Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Malaysia, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Maritime includes Brunei, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Timor-Leste, and Papua New Guinea.

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a regional grouping that promotes economic, political, and security cooperation among its ten Member State: Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Viet Nam. ASEAN was established in 1967 and launched the ASEAN Economic Community (AEC) in 2015. The ASEAN Community focuses on the influential association among the Member State and enhancing its competitive capacity with other countries. Such focus is subject to three pillars: Political-Security Community, Economic Community and Socio-Cultural Community. It led to regional economic growth based on policy, establishing the free trade area, regional hub for transportation, regional collaboration expansion on convenient

transportation and communication, liberal mobilization of goods, services, capital, investment, and labor for a single market and production base. ASEAN Member States' common goal is to drive the ASEAN Community toward being a drug-free region.

ASEAN has called for a regional meeting among the ASEAN Senior Officials on Drug Matters (ASOD) to collaborate on the regional drug abuse resolution in five areas: law enforcement, preventive drug education, treatment and rehabilitation, research, and alternative development. There are additional proposals to share information related to drug syndicates and watch-list suspects under the framework of ASOD. The activities include international assistance for the ASEAN Member States to enhance their drug analysis capability and verify drugs for intelligence and investigation purposes. The ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center (ASEAN-NARCO) has been established as a hub to provide preventive and suppressive measures in the region and initiate proactive prevention and resolution of virtually ASEAN Member States' drug abuse.

The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN) began in June 2015. ADMN is a project under ASEAN-NARCO supported by the Office of the Narcotics

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Control Board (ONCB), Thailand. ADMN provides a platform to share information by analyzing the regional drug situation, presenting a national perspective, and incorporating innovative approaches to identifying and monitoring emerging drug problems. The information is provided in the annual ASEAN Drug Monitoring (ADM) Report to timely detect drug issues, research, and policy development in each ASEAN Member State. ADMN annual reports describing drug use trends and emerging topics are available in print and on the ASEAN-NARCO website.

ADMN is a system that aims to collect information over time from existing and archival data systems of ASEAN Member States that reflect the situation of drug abuse, such as drug abuse treatment and arrest reports. These systems indicate existing drug abuse patterns within the ten Southeast Asian Nations. Any of these changes are signs of new ways of drug abuse that need further exploration. Because data used in ADMN systems are not population-based, developing incidence or prevalence rates is difficult. However, one can review these data over time, conclude where new drug abuse patterns exist, and follow how these patterns spread across the Member States.

ADMN has developed a questionnaire to collect drug information

since 2015 and created a database through the collaboration of Member States. The questionnaire collects data on both drug demand and supply. Analyzing the data across time can provide an early warning of new drug patterns also insights into new spatial drug abuse patterns across the Member States. The data developed the first ASEAN Drug Monitoring (ADM) Report in 2015. The ASEAN-NARCO website has been utilized as an online database and information sharing among the ASEAN Member States.

The ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2022 presents a comprehensive overview of ASEAN's latest drug situation by focusing on the demand and supply of illicit drugs encountered in the region.

Chapter 1 provides an overview of the drug situation in ASEAN. Chapter 2 presents drugs of concern in ASEAN, namely Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS), opiates/opioid, cannabis, New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), cocaine, Central Nervous System (CNS) depressants, hallucinogens, and others. Chapter 3 focuses on ASEAN Member States' national drug situation reports. Chapter 4 introduces research knowledge and innovations undertaken by the Member States, and Chapter 5 highlights ASEAN's best practices in Policy and Programme implementation.

2. POPULATION

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)'s world population data shows that ASEAN has the third-largest population globally, behind China and India. The ASEAN population had increased from 628.7 million in 2015 to 676.6 million in 2022. The increase rate was 0.4%-1.6% per annum, ranging from 0.4 million in Brunei Darussalam to 275.8 million in Indonesia. ASEAN's population accounts for 8.5% of the world population, with Indonesia representing 41% of the ASEAN people. The sex ratio (males per females) in ASEAN is

about 1:1, with more than half below 30. 47.7% of ASEAN's population lives in urban areas. ASEAN is the sixth-largest economy, behind the United States, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom. The average economic growth of ASEAN Member States was 3.3% in 2022. Furthermore, the average GDP per capita among the Member States has increased three-fold over the past 20 years. However, according to the World Bank statistics, significant income disparities remain between and across the ASEAN Member States.

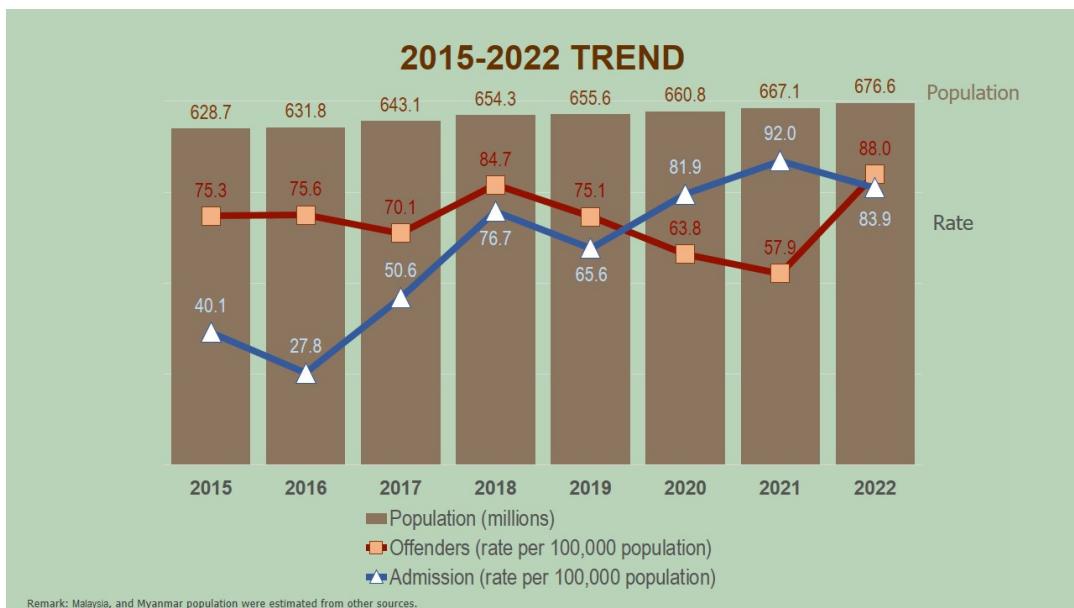


Figure 1: Population and General Trends in ASEAN

3. SITUATIONS

The pandemic of COVID-19 broke out in late 2019, making the World Health Organization (WHO) declares the COVID-19 outbreak as a global pandemic on 11th March 2020. Its pandemic has continued going up in 2022, which affected the drug situation with direct and indirect impacts on ASEAN Member States' drug control. Since the prevalence data across The ASEAN Member States are unavailable, treatment data reflects the drug users' situation.

Across ASEAN's total population, 83.9 drug users were treated per 100,000 in 2022, which decreased by 7.5% from 2021. Of these, two-thirds were ATS users, opiates/opioid users accounted for 15%, 3.5% were cannabis users, and 12% were polydrugs users. The number of drug users treated in 2022 was higher than in 2015 at 125.1%. It should be noted that the increase rate before the COVID-19 pandemic was 17.6% per annum, while the increase rate during the COVID-19 pandemic was 10.6% per annum.

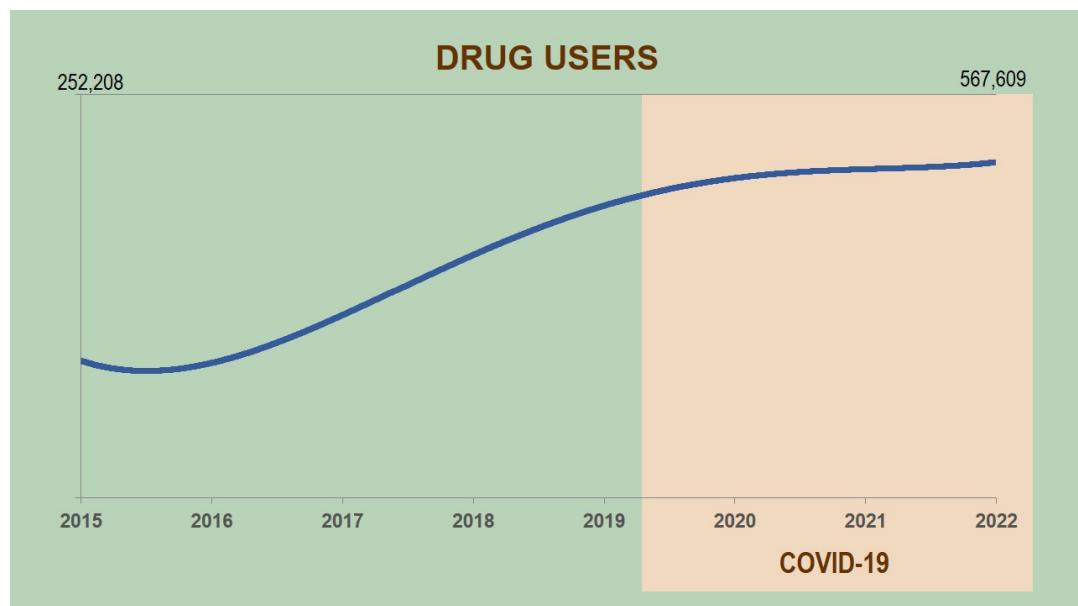
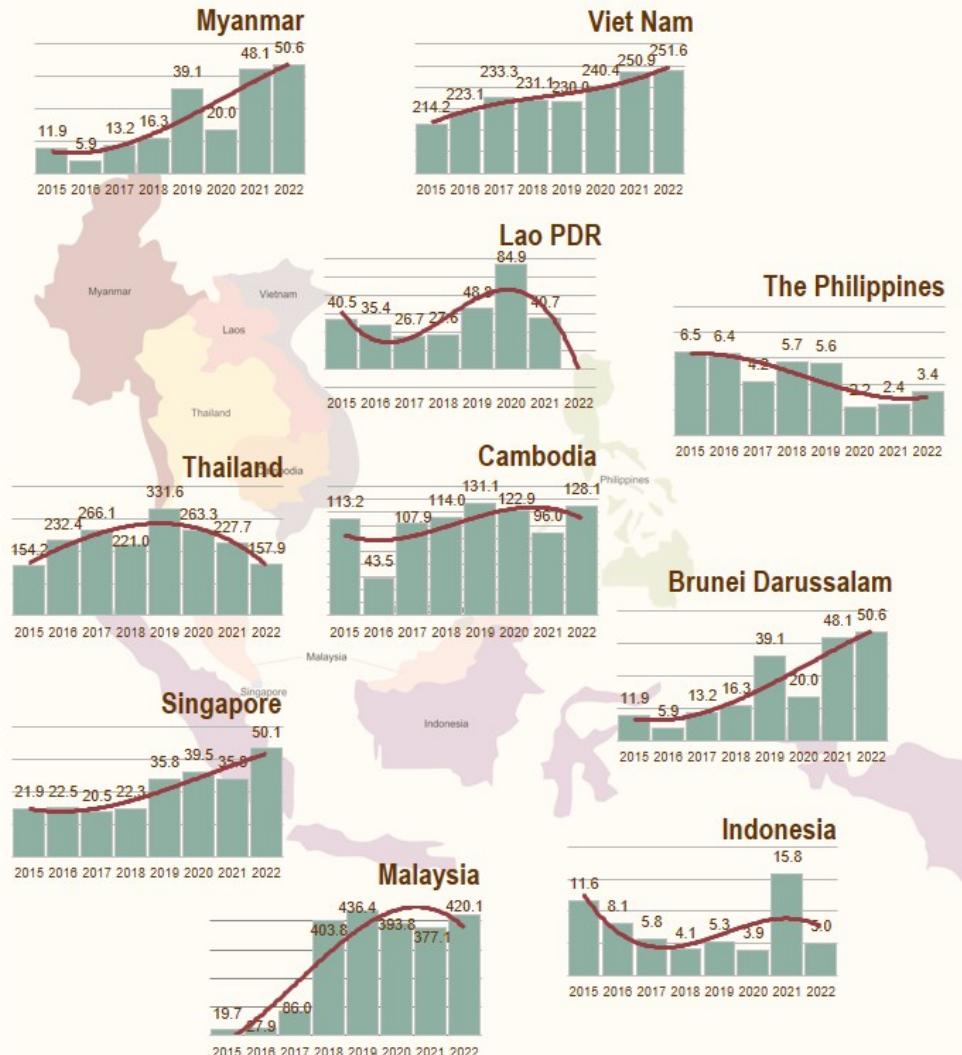


Figure 2: Drug users' trends in ASEAN

Five hundred sixty-seven thousand six hundred nine drug users in ASEAN were treated in 2022. Among 100,000 populations, the Philippines has seen the lowest treatment rate at 3.4, whereas the highest

rate was Malaysia at 420.1. Trends in treatment have increased from 2021 in five countries. Compared to 2021, the rate of addiction treatment in Viet Nam and Brunei was stable. The rest were slightly decreased.

TOTAL ANNUAL DEMAND (Rate per 100,000 population)



Drug users 2022 567,609

Figure 3: Rate of Drug users under treatment by the ASEAN Member States in 2022

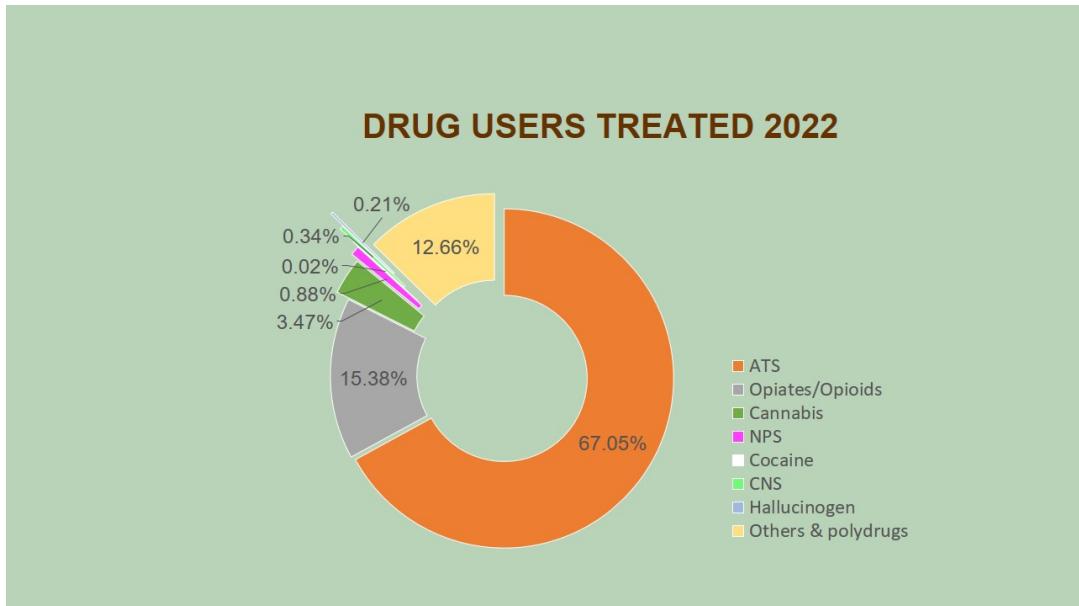


Figure 4: Drug users' treated in ASEAN 2022

Thailand had the highest number of ATS treatments, followed by Malaysia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, the Philippines, and Singapore. Treatment of opiates/opioids was the highest in Malaysia, followed by Thailand. Treatment of cannabis was the highest in Thailand, followed by Malaysia and Indonesia. While a few were recorded on NPS, hallucinogens, CNS depressants, and cocaine treatment.(Figure 5)

Across ASEAN's total population, 88.0 drug offenders were arrested per 100,000 in 2022, which increased by 54.3% from 2021. Of these, 77.9% were ATS traffickers, 10.3% were opiates/opioid traffickers, 6.3% were cannabis traffickers, and 4.4% were NPS traffickers. It should be noted that the rate before the COVID-19 pandemic increased by 79.6% per annum, while the rate during the COVID-19 pandemic decreased by 52.5% per annum. (Figure 6)

TYPE OF DRUG (USERS)

by ASEAN Member States

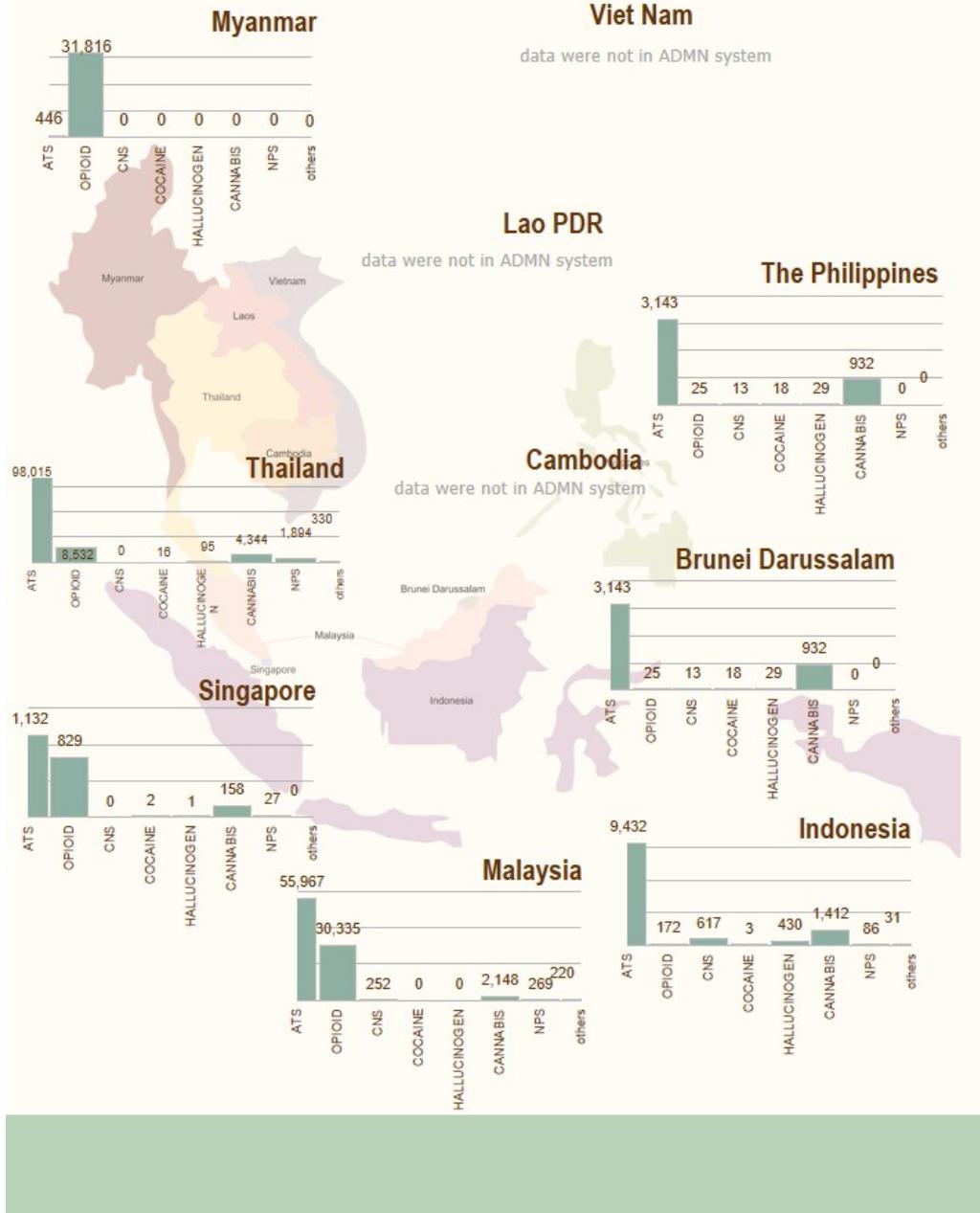


Figure 5: Drug user treatment by Drug types by the ASEAN Member States

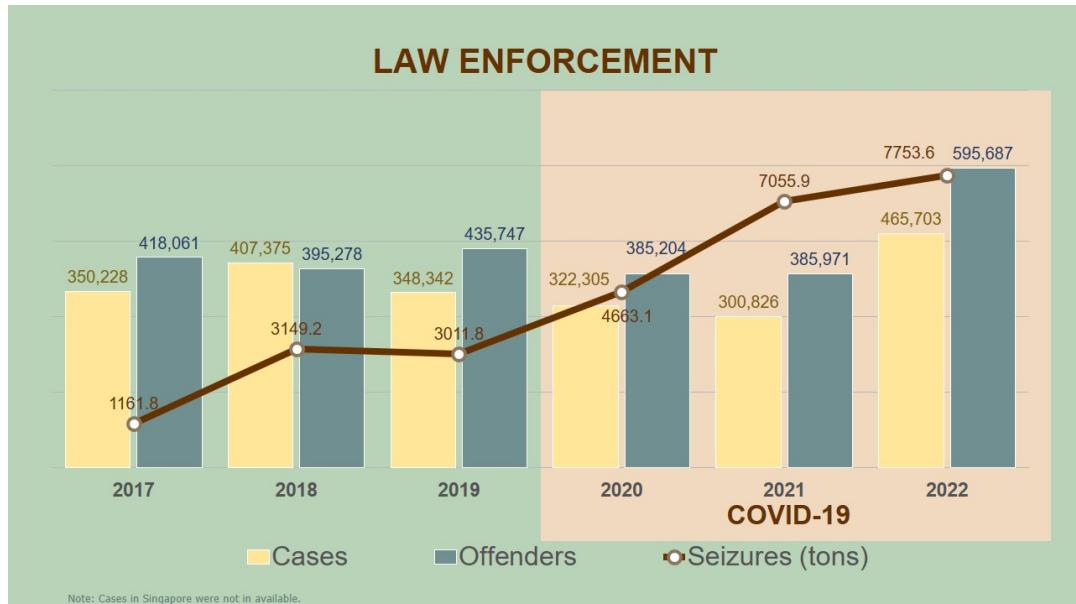


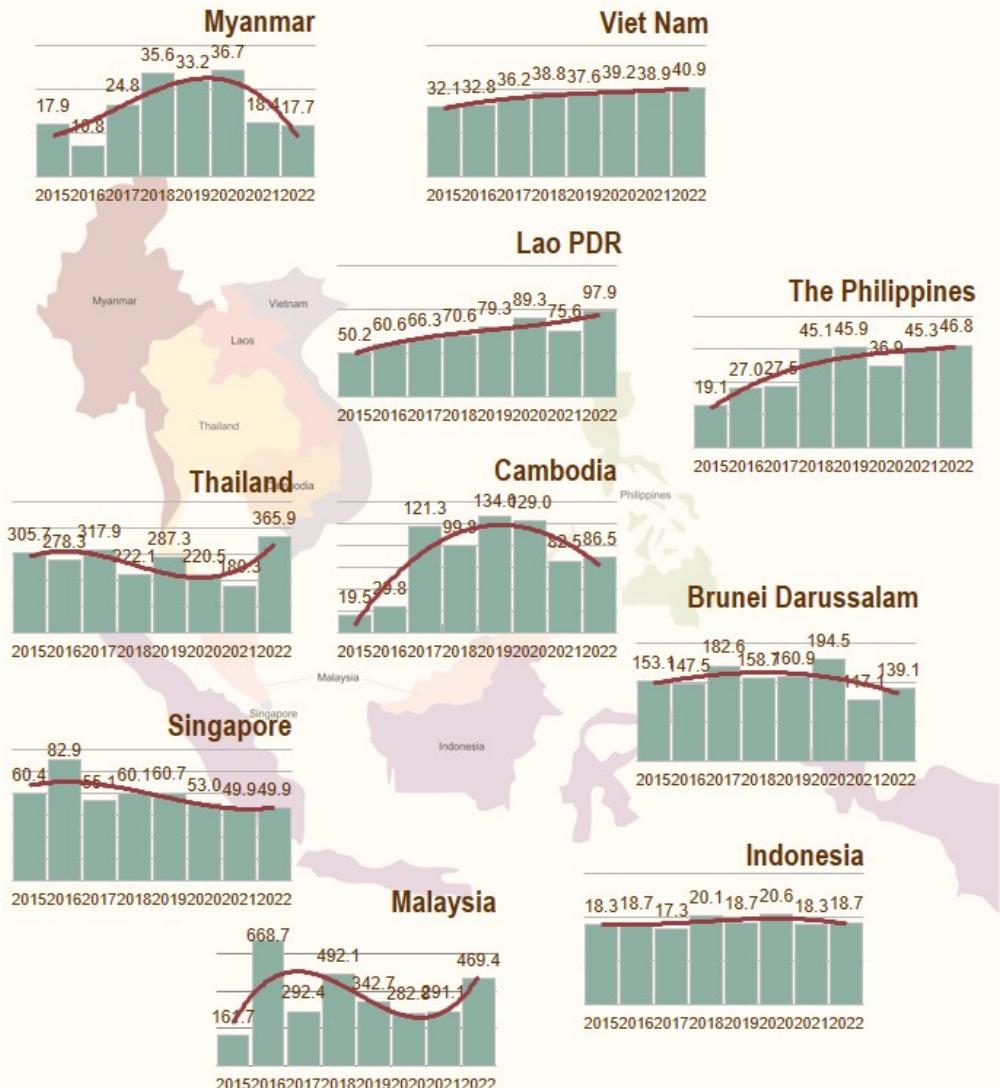
Figure 6: Law enforcement trend in ASEAN

It should be noted that while drug offenders slightly declined at the beginning of COVID-19, seizures were 157.4% increased from 2019. There were 595,687 drug offenders across ASEAN in 2022. Drug offenders increased in all Member States except Myanmar and Singapore.

ATS-related crimes were most reported by all ASEAN countries, particularly methamphetamine, both tablet and crystal forms. There were 268,221 offenders of ATS-related crimes, over 100,000 in

Thailand, over 50,000 in Malaysia and the Philippines, and over 40,000 in Indonesia. Opioid-related crimes were reported in Malaysia, followed by Myanmar, Thailand, Singapore, and Lao PDR. However, Cannabis-related crimes remain a problem in all ASEAN Member States, and continuous monitoring is necessary. As previously mentioned, NPS poses a challenge in the changing face of recreational drug use, with more than 10,000 offenders arrested in Malaysia.

TOTAL ANNUAL SUPPLY (Rate per 100,000 population)



Offenders 2022 595,687

Figure 7: Trend of Offender Rates by the ASEAN Member States

TYPE OF DRUG (OFFENDERS)

by ASEAN Member States

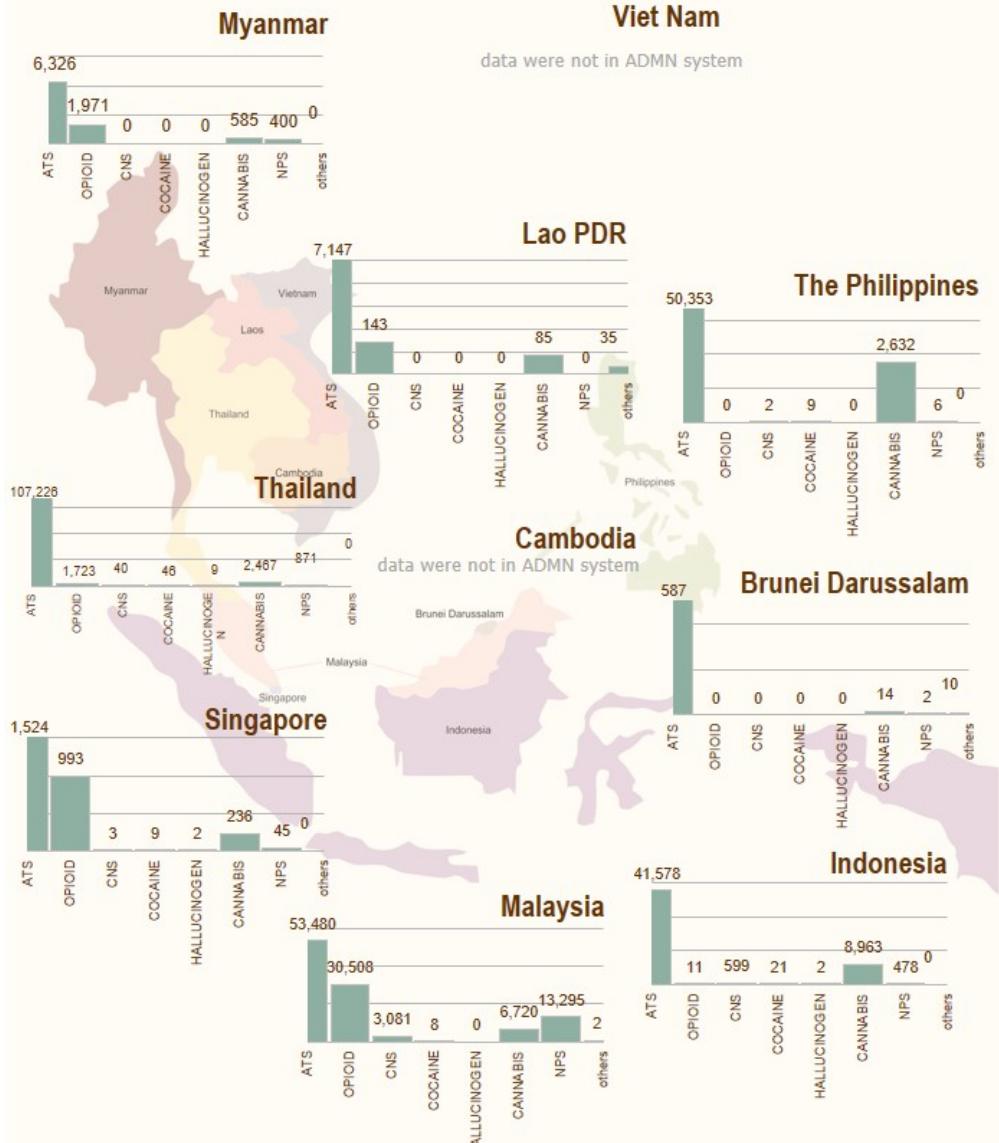


Figure 8: Drug offenders by Drug types by The ASEAN Member States

Regarding drug seizures, cannabis seizures were predominantly higher than other drugs. In 2022 over 7,300 metric tons of cannabis were seized, a 19.1% increase from 2021. Over 230 metric tons of NPS were seized, a 53.7% decrease from 2021. While over 150 metric tons of ATS were

seized in 2022, a 13.6% decrease from 2021. Only nine metric tons of opiates/opioids were seized, lower than in the past. CNS depressant, cocaine, and hallucinogen seizures were less than one metric ton. Precursor and other seizures significantly increased from 2021.

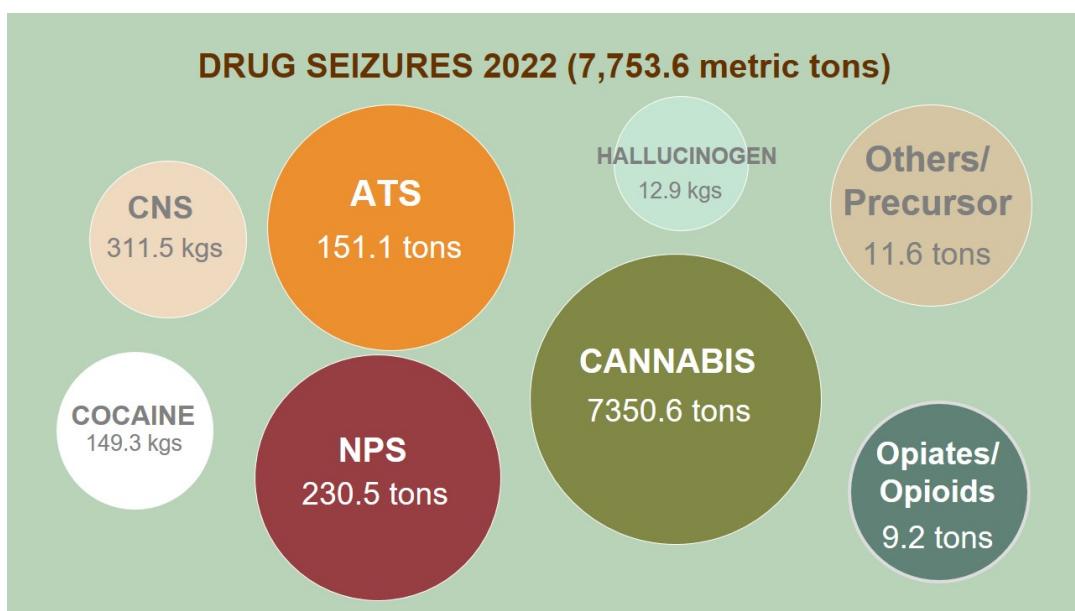


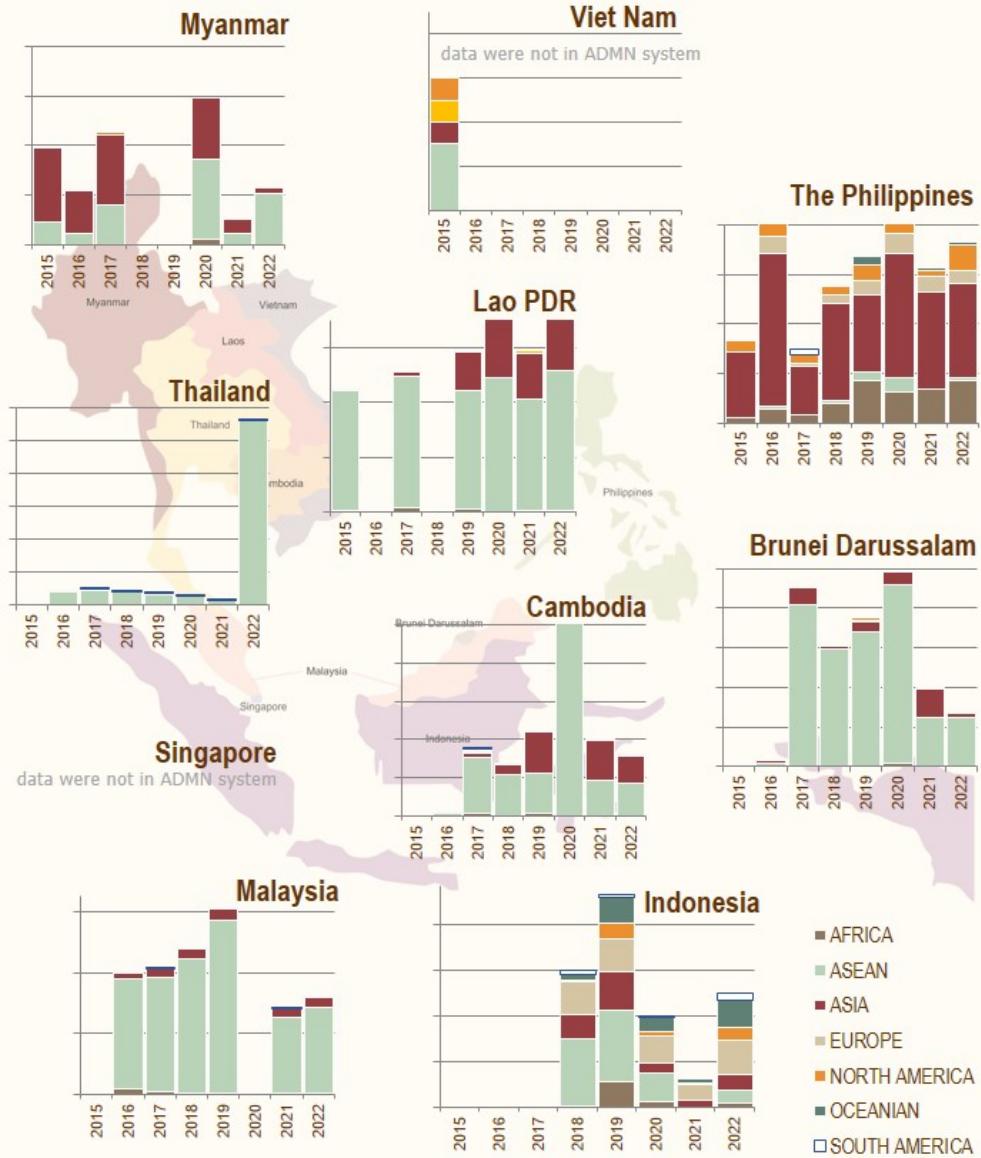
Figure 9: Drug seizures in ASEAN 2021

The number of drug crimes committed by foreign nationals in the ASEAN region. In 2022, 63,077 foreign nationals committed, which dramatically increased from 2021.

97.9% of these offenders are Southeast Asian nationals—the remaining 73 nationals from other Asian and European countries, including Africa and America.

FOREIGN TRAFFICKERS

All foreigners 24,722



Remark: Singapore and Vietnam data not available

Figure 10: Foreign Traffickers Arrested in the ASEAN Member States Classified by Geographical Zone

4. REGIONAL COOPERATION

The ASEAN Member States have faced similar illicit drug problems, such as opium poppy cultivation, heroin production, and Methamphetamine manufacturing in the Golden Triangle. Thailand, Myanmar, and Lao PDR have collaborated with China in the "Safe Mekong Operation" since 2013, aiming to suppress drug trafficking along the Mekong River and the nearby Golden Triangle area. In 2015, the international law enforcement initiative expanded to include Viet Nam and Cambodia.

The "Safe Mekong Operation" emphasizes intelligence exchange, joint investigation, and operation on interdiction of essential chemicals and precursors, resulting in effective suppression within the Golden Triangle and related areas. As shown, seizures of powerful drugs and precursors have increased in a short time as a result of this cooperation.

ASEAN Member States' law enforcement authorities have intercepted drug precursors

and chemicals destined for the production sites, resulting in many arrests and seizures. The number of drug offenders arrested has increased since 2015 to more than 3,688 in 2020 and decreased to 2,023 in 2022. Contrarily, the number of arrests for drug cases, 1,449 in 2020, showed less in 2022. There was a massive increase in methamphetamine tablets and cannabis from 2020 to 2021, and it was almost stable in 2022. Although methamphetamine crystal increased from 2020, it was over 20 metric tons. Ketamine showed a two-time increase from 2021, while heroin and opium dramatically decreased from 2021. Although the COVID-19 epidemic in the region affected Safe Mekong Operation, the information exchange continues. However, with the ongoing implementation of alternative developments in some areas of the Golden Triangle, it is expected that the area's drug production and trafficking situation will improve in the next few years.

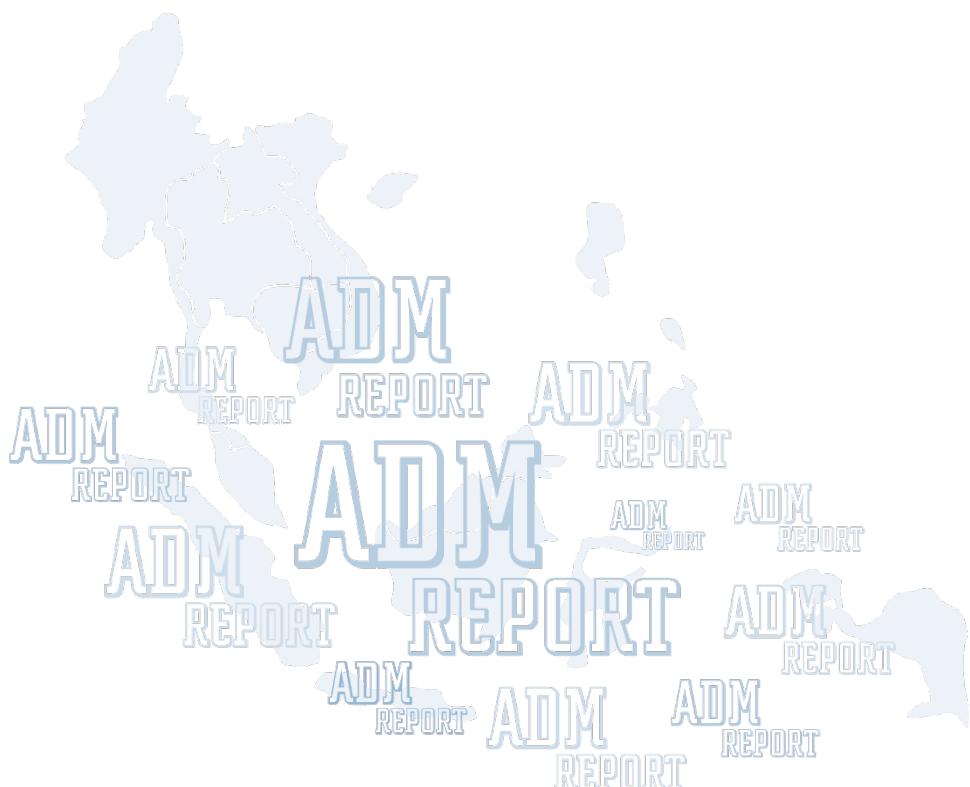
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Figure 11: Arrests and Seizures by Safe Mekong Operation

CHAPTER 2

Major Drug Problems in ASEAN



OVERVIEW

Illicit drug use/abuse is a significant problem in ASEAN. Archaeological evidence reported using a plant-based psychoactive substance in Southeast Asia for over 15,000 years (Sullivan & Hagen, 2002). During 2017-2022, almost 3 million ASEAN drug users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated drug users was between 26 and 48 years old, varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, 59.8% were new drug users. In 2022, 567,609 drug users accessed treatment facilities, an 3.1% decrease from the past year. These drug users have increased to 74.6% from 2017. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred

in late 2019 in ASEAN, drug users' access to treatment within ASEAN increased by 31.9% from 2019.

Eight drug types were found in ASEAN, namely: Amphetamine Type Stimulants (ATS), opiates/opioid, cannabis, New Psychoactive Substances (NPS), cocaine, Central Nervous System (CNS) depressants, hallucinogens, and others. Among common substances, ATS was the most widely abused among ASEAN drug users who received treatment and accounted for three quarters. The second most widely abused substances were opiates/opioids and others/polydrugs.

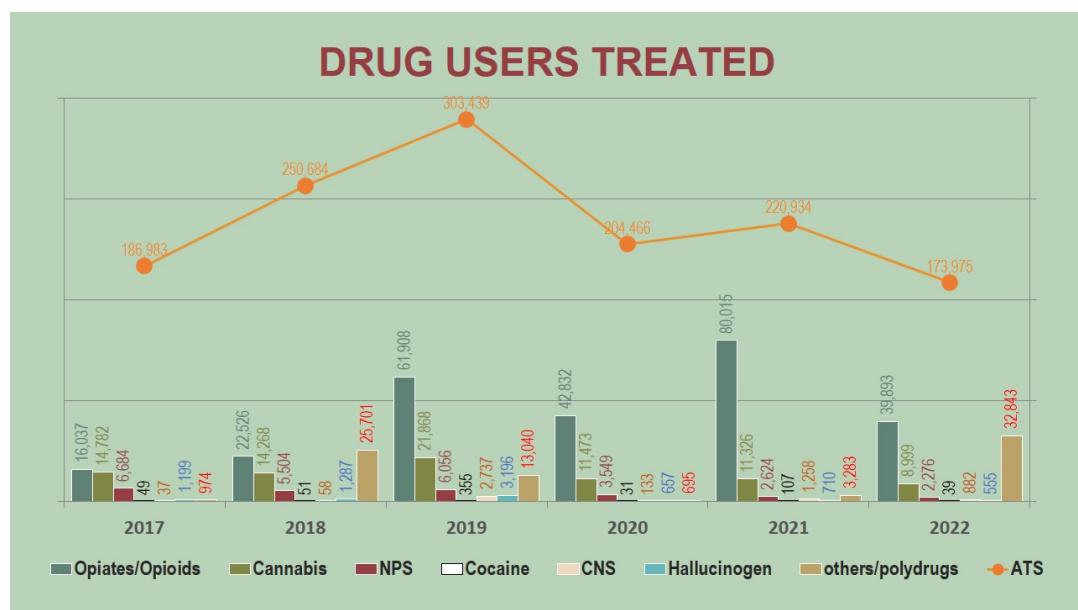


Figure 12: ASEAN drug users treated by drug types

Of all ASEAN drug users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States, three-quarters were ATS users. However, the proportion of ATS users may vary between 67% to 82% each year. Around 15% were opiates/opioid users. The percentage of opiates/opioid users may vary between 7% to 25% each year. Cannabis users accounted for 5% of all drug users, ranging from 3% to 7% annually. Even though Thailand launched the medical cannabis policy in 2019, the proportion of Cannabis users in the treatment system remained unchanged, 3.5-5.3% during 2019-2022 (cannabis-prescribed users in Thailand were not counted in this report).

However, 4% of drug users who accessed treatment were polydrug users.

Considering the variation in a year, the ADM Report System is separated into the first six months (January-June) and the last six months (July-December). The majority of drug users get treated early each year. Over 60% of all ASEAN drug users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 57% to 70%. In early 2022, two-thirds of all ASEAN drug users accessed treatment. The number was a 14.6% decrease from the past year. In comparison, 34.6% of all ASEAN drug users accessed treatment in late 2022, a slight increase of 4.4% from the past year.

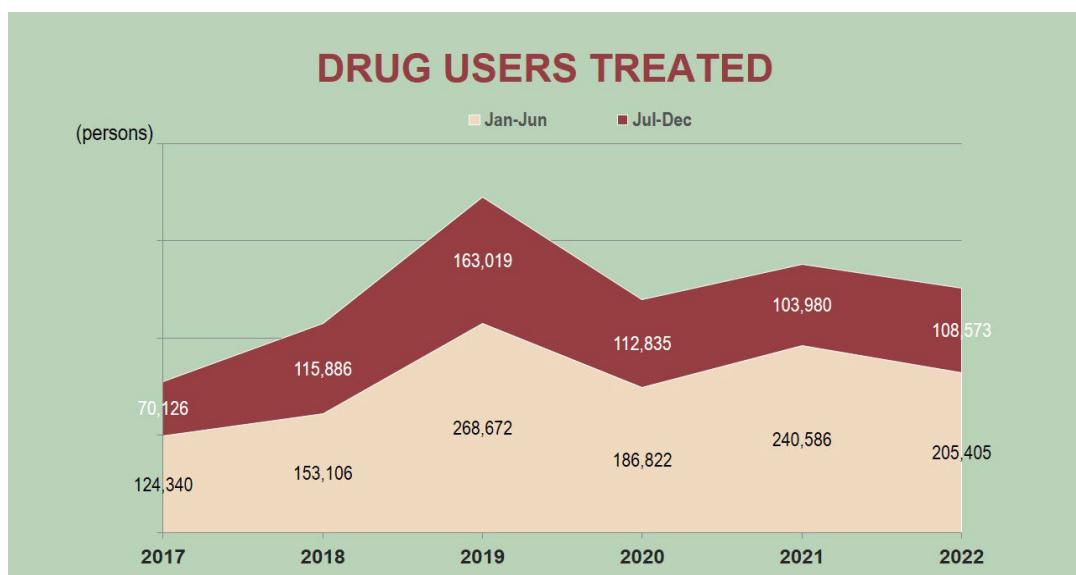


Figure 13: ASEAN drug users treated periodically

According to drug types classification, ATS is still the highest proportion accounting for 72.8% of all drug users treated (2017-2022). The proportion varies from 58% to 87% in each period, highest in early 2018 and lowest in early 2022. 17.8% were opiates/opioid users. The percentage of opiates/opioid users may vary between 2%

to 37% each period, highest in early 2022 and lowest in early 2017. Cannabis users accounted for 4.3% of all drug users, ranging from 2-8% periodically, highest in early 2017 and lowest in early 2022. Polydrug users accounted for 3.0% of all drug users, the highest in late 2022 and the lowest in early 2022.

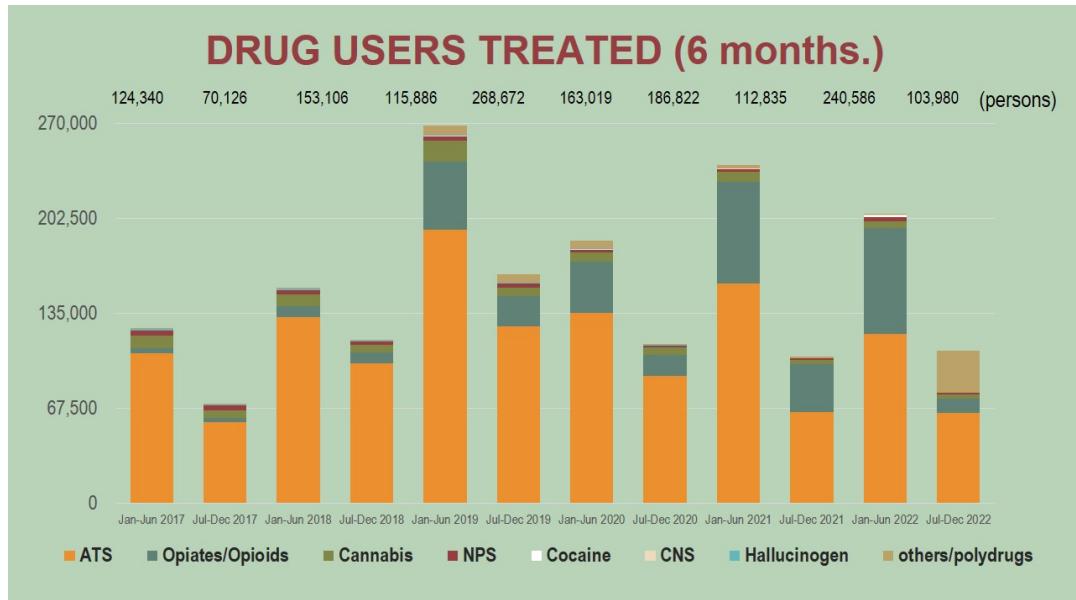


Figure 14: ASEAN drug users treated periodically by drug types

During 2017-2022, almost twenty-seven thousand metric tons of illicit drugs were seized within the ASEAN Member States. The average seizures were 4470 metric tons annually. In 2022, 7,753.6 metric tons of illicit drugs were seized, an 9.9% increase from the past year. From 2017, these seizures increased by over six times. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, illicit drugs within ASEAN have increased by 157.4%.

Unlike drug users, Cannabis was the most illicit drug seized among the ASEAN Member States. It accounted for

over 80% of all seized. The second illicit drug seized was NPS accounted for 9% of all seized. ATS accounted for 3% of all seized. Interestingly, the ASEAN Member States seized 1.9 thousand metric tons of precursor. The average precursor seized was over 316 metric tons annually. In 2022, however, only 11.6 metric tons of precursor were seized, a vast decrease from the past year. From 2017, this precursor decreased by 90.3%. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, the precursor seized within ASEAN has decreased by 96.2%.

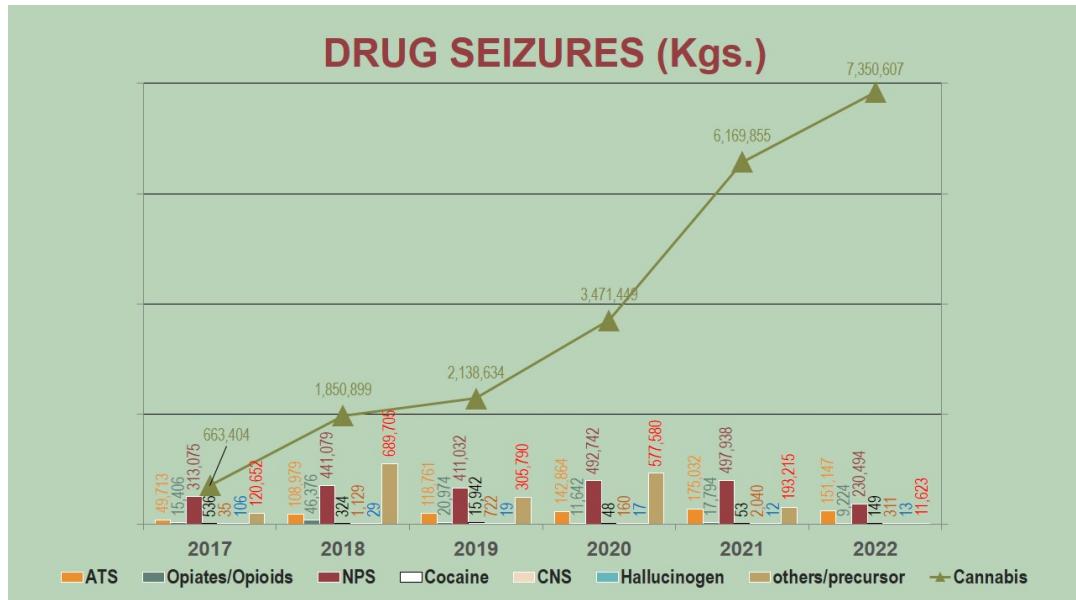


Figure 15: Illicit drugs seized by drug types

45.9% of all drugs were seized in the first half. The proportion may vary from 32% to 61%. In early 2022, 49.1% of drugs were seized. The number was a 66.7% increase from the past year during the same period.

In comparison, 54.1% of drugs were seized in late 2022, a 15.3% decrease from the past year. It should be noted that the 2022 seizures were almost 1.4 times increased during the COVID-19 pandemic.

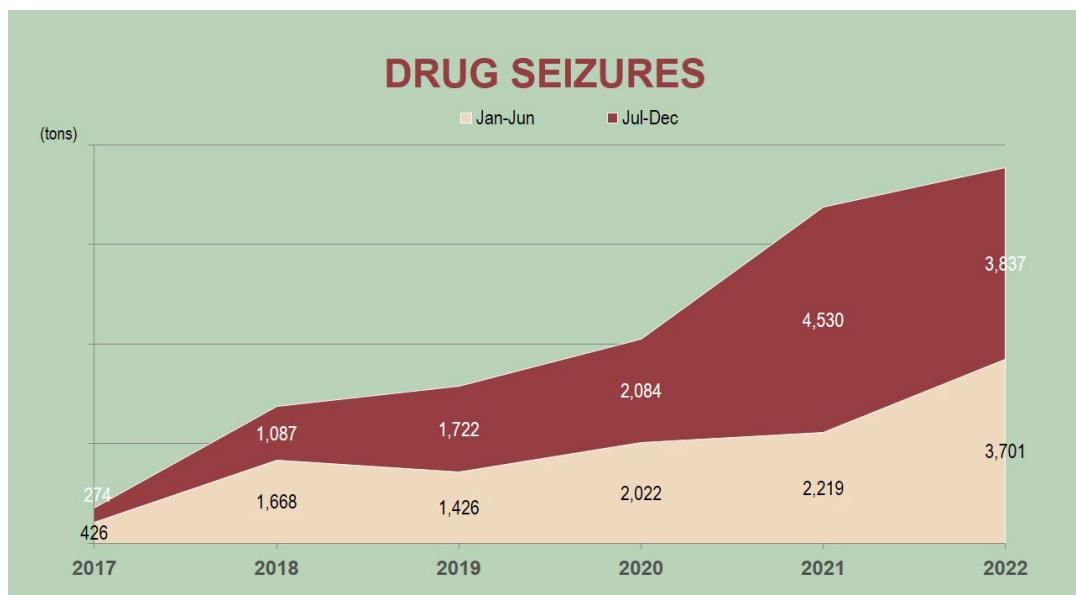


Figure 16: Illicit drugs seized periodically

According to drug types classification, Cannabis is still the highest proportion accounting for 84.4% of all seized (counting on weight). During 2017-2022, the proportion varied from 65% to 97% in each period, the highest in late 2022 and lowest in late 2017. In 2022, the proportion of Cannabis seized was 95.1%, the most elevated during 2017-2022. 8.8% were NPS seized. The percentage of NPS may vary between 3% to 22% each period, highest in late 2017 and lowest in

late 2022. In 2022, the proportion of NPS seized was 3.1%, the lowest during 2017-2022. ATS seized accounted for 2.7% of seizures, ranging from 1 to 7% periodically, highest in late 2017 and lowest in late 2022. The proportion of ATS seized was 1.6% in 2022, the lowest during 2017-2022. Precursors accounted for 3.5% of all seized, the highest in early 2019 and lowest in early 2022.

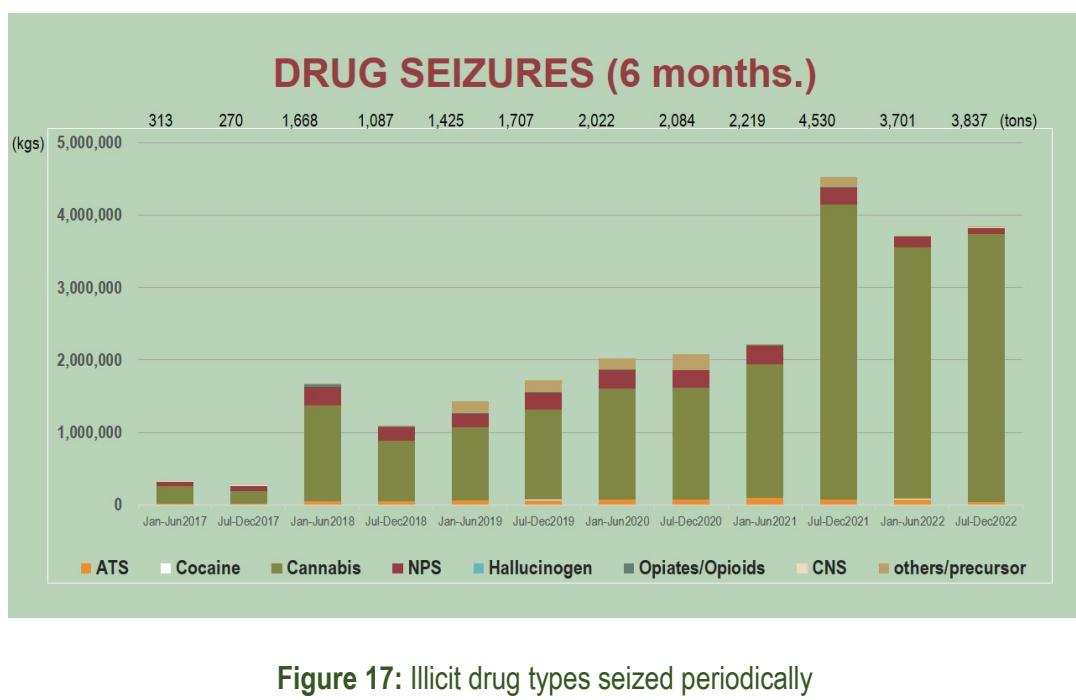


Figure 17: Illicit drug types seized periodically

1. ATS

ATS (Amphetamine-Type Stimulants) are a group of synthetic drugs, including amphetamine, methamphetamine, ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, ecstasy (MDMA), and its derivatives. ATS, in general, stimulates the central nervous system, also been proven to cause insomnia, arousal, and reduced

hunger. ATS has been used to suppress appetite, improve cognitive performance, and treat ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), depression, and narcolepsy. ATS is also known for its addictive property and widespread substance abuse problem.

ATS is widely used in Southeast Asia. It was first used as medicine and formerly sold legally at gas stations in Thailand for truck drivers used by long-haul drivers to stay awake. The Thai government has outlawed ATS since 1970 (Pressly 2019). During 2017-2022, over 1.3 million ATS users accessed treatment facilities within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated ATS users was between 27 and 46 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 10.9:1 (ranging from 9.6:1 to 12.1 each year). Of these, 65.2% were new ATS users (ranging from 51.3% to 80.3% each year).

In 2022, over 170,000 ASEAN population who suffer from using ATS access to get treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated

ATS users were between 28 and 46 years old, varies from country to country, and are primarily male. Of these, 51.3% were new ATS users. In 2022, ATS drug users got treatment, an 8.5% decrease from the past year. From 2017, these ATS users decrease by 6.9%. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, ATS users access to treatment within ASEAN decreased by 42.7%.

ATS users found in ASEAN in 2022 were methamphetamine tablets (YABA), methamphetamine crystalline (ICE/Shabu), amphetamine, and ecstasy. YABA was the most widely abused among ATS users. The second most commonly used were methamphetamine crystalline (ICE/Shabu), amphetamine, and ecstasy, respectively.

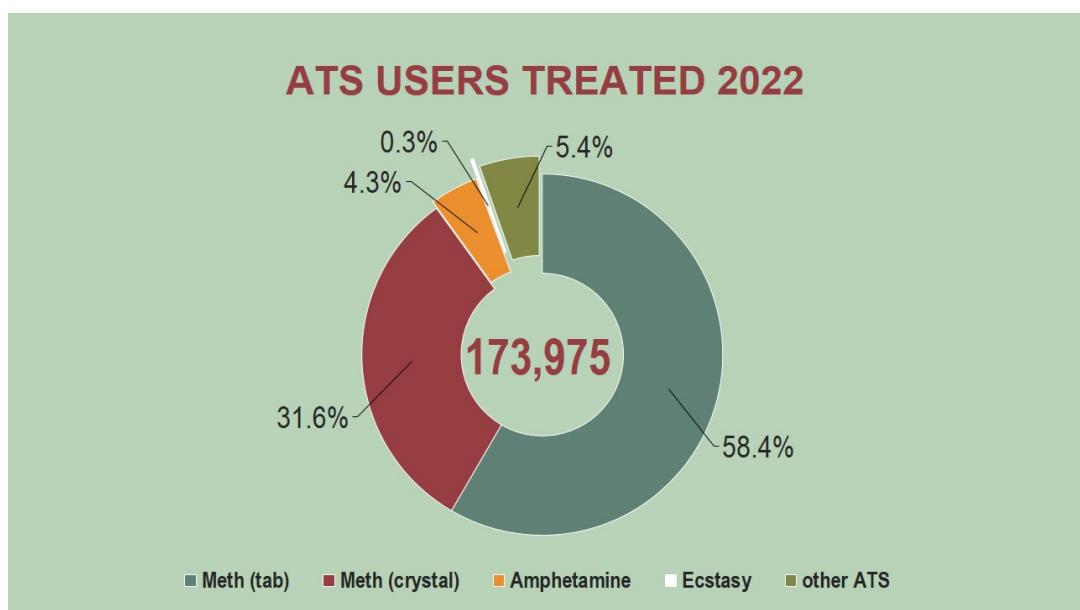


Figure 18: ATS users treated in 2022

Of all ATS users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States during 2017-2022, over nine hundred twenty thousand persons were YABA users.

However, the proportion of YABA users may vary between 55% to 87% each year. In 2022 the proportion of YABA users was 55.5%. Over three hundred eighty thousand

persons were *ICE/Shabu* users who accessed treatment during 2017-2022. The percentage of *ICE/Shabu* users may vary between 12% to 41% each year. In 2022 the proportion of *ICE/Shabu* users was 40.3%. Although Ecstasy users have been reported as over three thousand users, accounting for less than 1% of all ATS users, it has been found that Ecstasy users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States continuously. Even though Amphetamine users have been reported as over twenty-six thousand users since 2018, it has been found in only a few countries, ranging from

0.4% to 5% annually. In 2022, the proportion of Amphetamine users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States was 4.1%.

Considering the variation in a year, most ATS users get treated early each year. Over 60% of all ATS users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 57% to 71%. In early 2022, 65.2% of all ATS users accessed treatment. The number was a 22.7% decrease from the past year. In comparison, 34.8% of all ATS users accessed treatment in late 2022, a slight decrease from the past year.

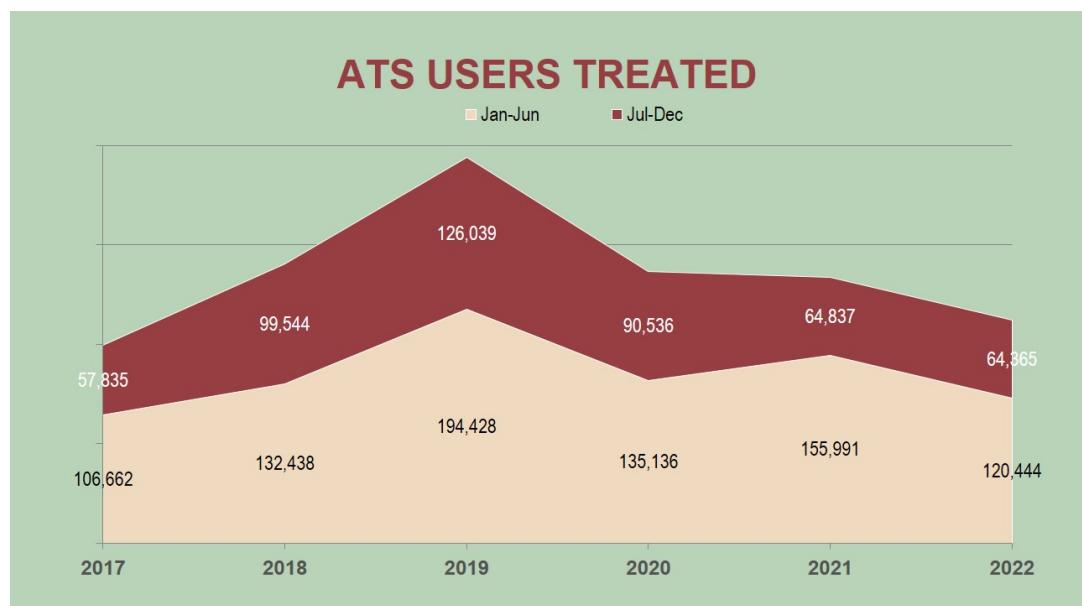


Figure 19: ATS users treated periodically

YABA is still the highest proportion accounting for 69.3% of all ATS users treated. The proportion varies from 45% to 91% in each period, highest in late 2017 and lowest in early 2022. Around 28% were *ICE/Shabu* users. The percentage of *ICE/Shabu* users may vary between 8% to 50% each period, highest in early 2022 and

lowest in late 2017. Amphetamine users accounted for 2% of all ATS users, ranging from 0.3 to 4.8% periodically, highest in early 2022 and lowest in early 2018. Ecstasy users accounted for 0.2% of all ATS users, ranging from 0.1 to 0.4% periodically, highest in early 2020 and lowest in late 2021.

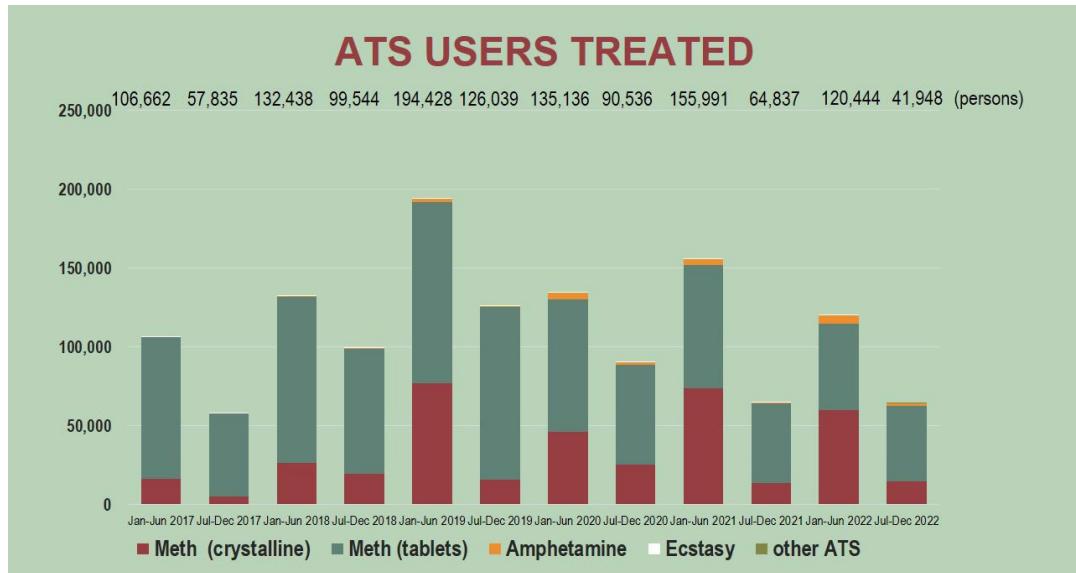


Figure 20: ATS users are treated periodically by drug types

During 2017-2022, there were over 1.4 million ATS-related cases, with over 1.6 million offenders arrested. Over 670 metric tons of ATS were seized within the ASEAN Member States. The average seizures were 165 metric tons annually. In 2022, there were over two hundred twenty thousand ATS-related cases, a 14.9% increase from 2021. ATS-related

offenders in 2022 were arrested over two hundred seventy thousand persons, a 6.7% increase from 2021. Over 117 metric tons of ATS were seized an 28.9% decrease from the past year. From 2017, these seizures increase by 3.5 times. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, ATS within ASEAN has slightly increased.



Figure 21: ATS arrested periodically

Similarly to ATS users, YABA was the most ATS seized among the ASEAN Member States, accounting for over half of all ATS seized by weight. During 2017-2022, its varied from 44% to 78% of all ATS seized, with an average of 64 tons annually. In 2022, the YABA seizure was 88.3 metric tons. The second ATS seized was ICE/Shabu accounting

for over 40% of all ATS seized by weight. During 2017-2022, its varied from 22% to 54% of all ATS seized, with an average of 48 tons annually. In 2022, ICE/Shabu seizure was 61.3 metric tons. The rest of the ATS seized are; Ecstasy 1.2 tons, Methamphetamine powder 280 kilograms, and Methamphetamine liquid 50 kilograms.

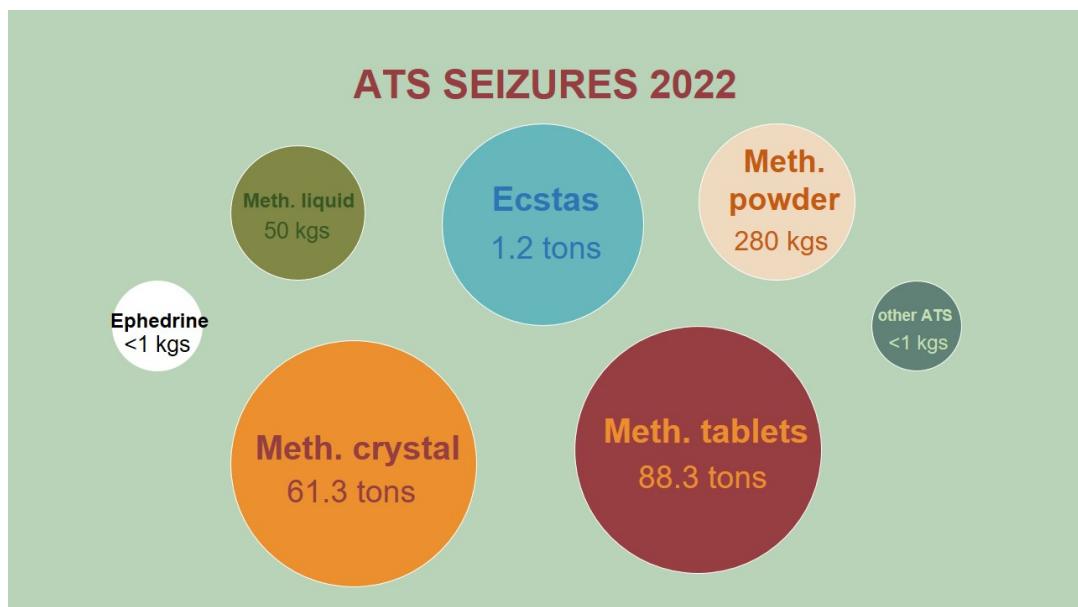


Figure 22: ATS seizures 2022

According to the ATS classification, YABA is continuing the highest proportion by weight in most periods. ICE/Shabu and Ecstasy were also seized constantly in every period. Other ATS were also seized, such as Amphetamine, Ephedrine, Methamphetamine

powder, and Methamphetamine liquid. Other ATS were occasionally seized, such as pseudoephedrine (seized in 2018) and para-Methoxyamphetamine (PMA) (seized in 2018).

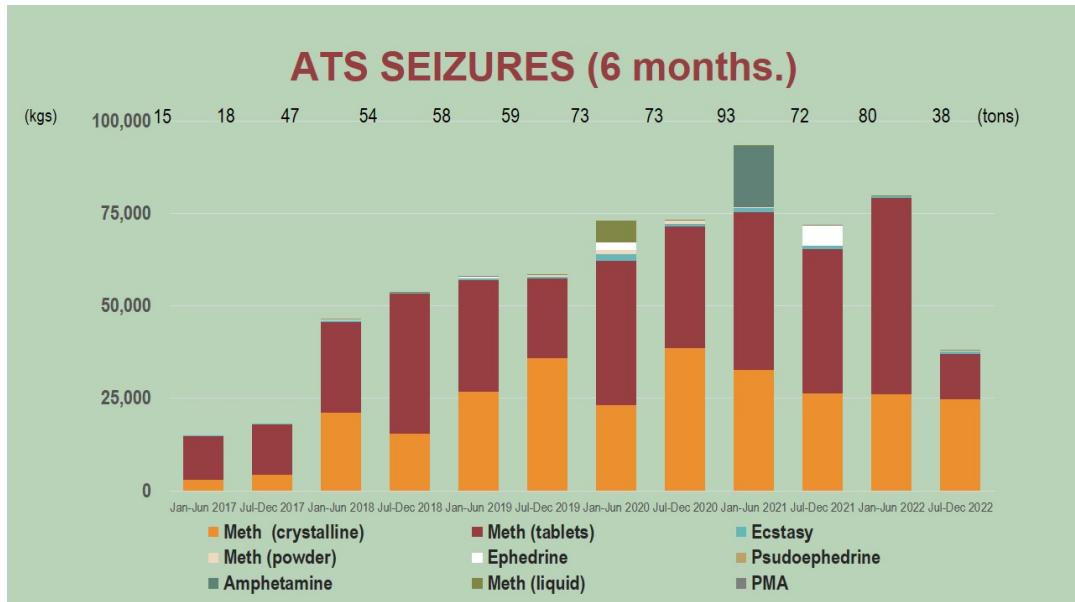


Figure 23: ATS seizures periodically

2. Opiates/Opioids

Of all illicit drugs, opium has a long history. The archeological evidence of human use, opium is the oldest known seed, dates back to more than 5000 BC (Merlin 2003). During the late nineteenth century, opium was integral to European colonial rule in Southeast Asia (Bailey & Truong 2001). The Golden Triangle is where the borders of Thailand, Laos, and Myanmar are; it has been one of the most extensive opium-producing areas of the world since the 1950s. Most of the world's Heroin came from the Golden Triangle until the early 21st century.

Opium is dried latex obtained from the unripe seedpods of the opium poppy plant grown at heights above 3,000 feet. Raw opium is a milky white latex that blackens as it dries to a sticky brown or black resin. It has

a heavy smell and bitter taste. On the other hand, the prepared opium is indirectly heated to temperatures at which the active alkaloids, mainly morphine, are vaporized. Poppy seeds are a decent source of nutrients, including protein, fatty acids, and minerals. The opium poppy plant contains narcotic alkaloids. The pharmacologically active principles of opium reside in its alkaloids. The two most important are morphine and papaverine. Morphine is the principal medical alkaloid of opium as a sedative, hypnotic, and pain medication. Papaverine is used as a smooth muscle relaxant. Opium is a highly addictive narcotic drug categorized into three types: 1) natural opiates derived from the opium poppy; 2) extracted opiates including morphine, Heroin, Codeine, and Tramadol; and

3) synthetic opioids including fentanyl, methadone, buprenorphine, and noscapine. Several variations of opiates/opioids have been seized in the ASEAN Member States. These include opium, Heroin, methadone, morphine, nalbuphine, and Codeine.

During 2017-2022, over 3.5 hundred thousand Opiates/Opioids users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Opiates/Opioids users was between 35 and 49 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 20.9:1 (ranging from 12.7:1 to 24.5:1 each year). Of these, 40.7% were new Opiates/Opioids users (ranging from 25% to 99% each year).

In 2022, over one hundred thousand ASEAN population who suffer from using Opiates/Opioids had access to treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Opiates/Opioids

users was between 35 and 48 years old, which varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, 25.6% were new Opiates/Opioids users. In 2022, Opiates/Opioids drug users got treatment, a slight increase from the past year. From 2017, these Opiates/Opioids users have increased by 18 times. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, Opiates/Opioids users' access to treatment within ASEAN has increased by 55%.

Four Opiates/Opioids users were found in ASEAN in 2022: Heroin, Opium, Methadone, and street Morphine. Heroin was the most widely abused among Opiates/Opioids users, accounting for over 90% of all Opiates/Opioids users. The second most commonly used were Opium, Methadone, and Morphine.

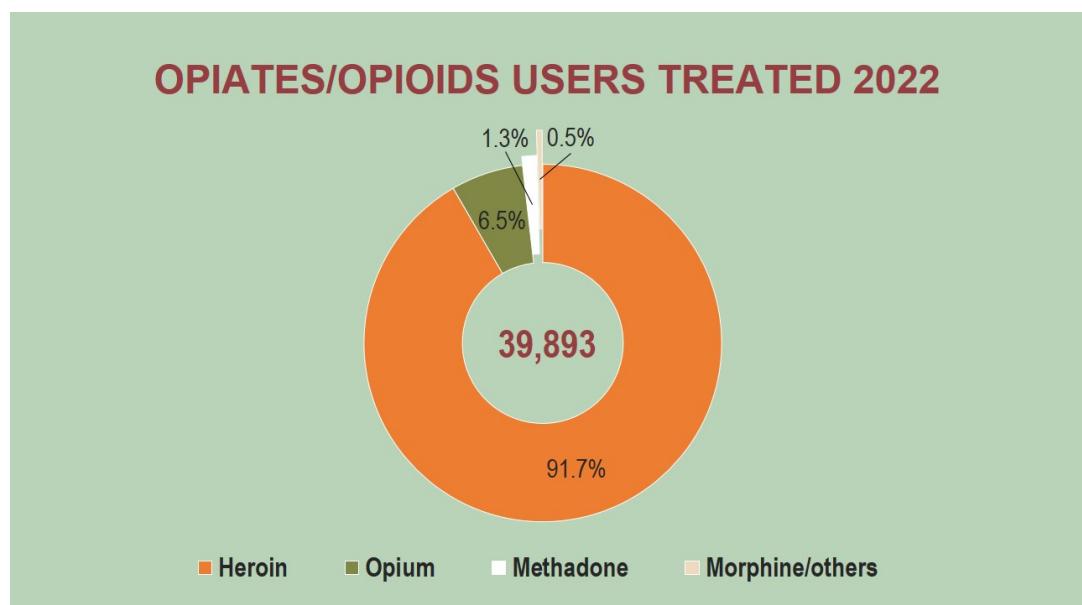


Figure 24: Opiates/Opioids users treated in 2022

Of all Opiates/Opioids users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States during 2017-2022, over one hundred thousand persons were Heroin users. However, the proportion of Heroin users may vary between 58% to 96% each year. In 2022 the proportion of Heroin users was 95.5%. In comparison, over twenty-two thousand persons were Opium users who accessed treatment during 2017-2022. The percentage of Opium users may vary between 3% to 41% each year. In 2022 the proportion of Opium users was 3.9%. Although Morphine users have been reported as under one hundred users, accounting for less than 1% of all Opiates/Opioids users, it has been found that Morphine users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States continuously.

Even though street Methadone users have been reported over one thousand users, it has been reported most of the time, ranging from 0.2% to 1.2% annually. In 2022 the proportion of street Methadone users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States was 0.6%.

Considering the variation in a year, most Opiates/Opioids users get treated early each year. Over two-thirds of all Opiates/Opioids users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 49% to 72%. In early 2022, 69.5% of all Opiates/Opioids users accessed treatment. The number was slightly increased from the past year. In comparison, 31.8% of all Opiates/Opioids users accessed treatment in late 2022, a slight decrease from the past year.

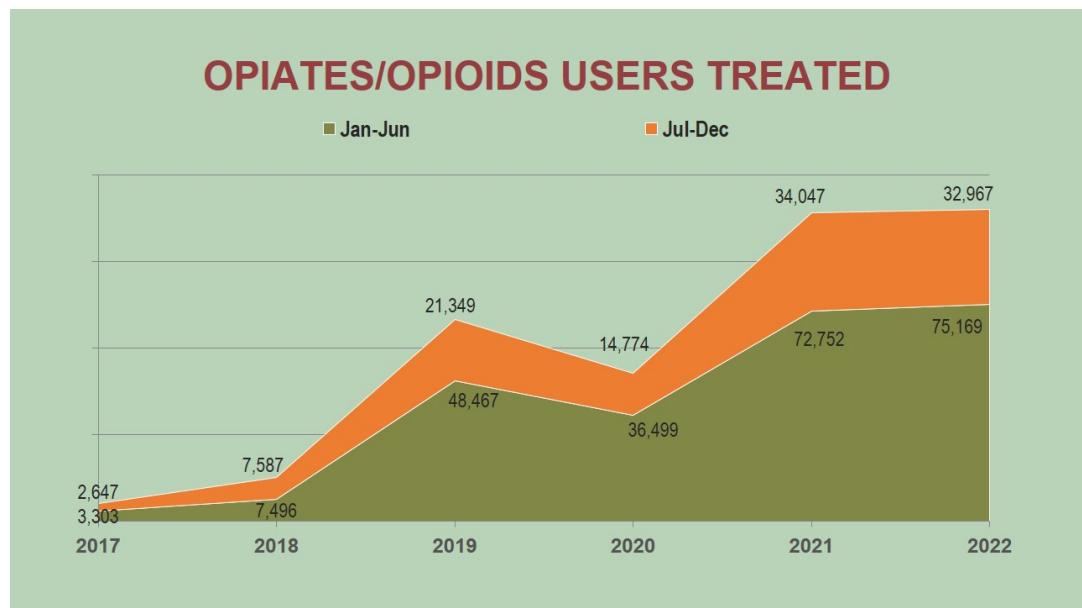


Figure 25: Opiates/Opioids users treated periodically

Heroin is still the highest proportion accounting for 92.9% of all Opiates/Opioids users treated. The proportion varies from 54% to 98% in each period, highest in early 2022 and lowest in early 2017. Around 6.5% were Opium users. The percentage of Opium users may vary between 1% to 41% each period, highest in early 2017 and lowest in early 2022. Street Methadone

users accounted for 0.4% of all Opiates/Opioids users, ranging from 0.2 to 1.9% periodically, highest in late 2018 and lowest in early 2019. Morphine users accounted for 0.03% of all Opiates/Opioids users, ranging from 0.01 to 0.18% periodically, highest in early 2017 and lowest in early 2021.

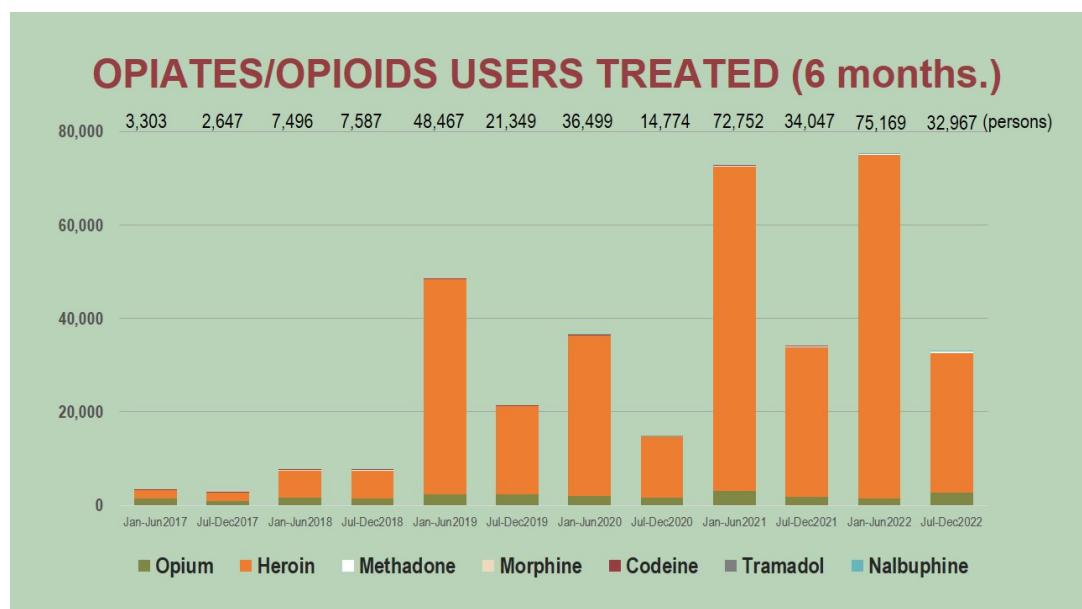


Figure 26: Opiates/Opioids users treated periodically by drug types

During 2017-2022, there were over 1.5 hundred thousand Opiates/Opioid-related cases, with 1.5 hundred thousand offenders arrested. Over one hundred metric tons of Opiates/Opioids were seized within the ASEAN Member States. The average seizures were 17.3 metric tons annually. In 2022, there were over twenty-eight thousand Opiates/Opioid-related cases, a 25.9% increase from the past year. Opiates/Opioids

related offenders in 2022 were arrested by over thirty-five thousand persons, a 17.4% increase from 2021. Over six metric tons of Opiates/Opioids were seized a 61% decrease from the past year. These seizures huge increased since 2017. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, Opiates/Opioids within ASEAN have decreased by 65.3%.

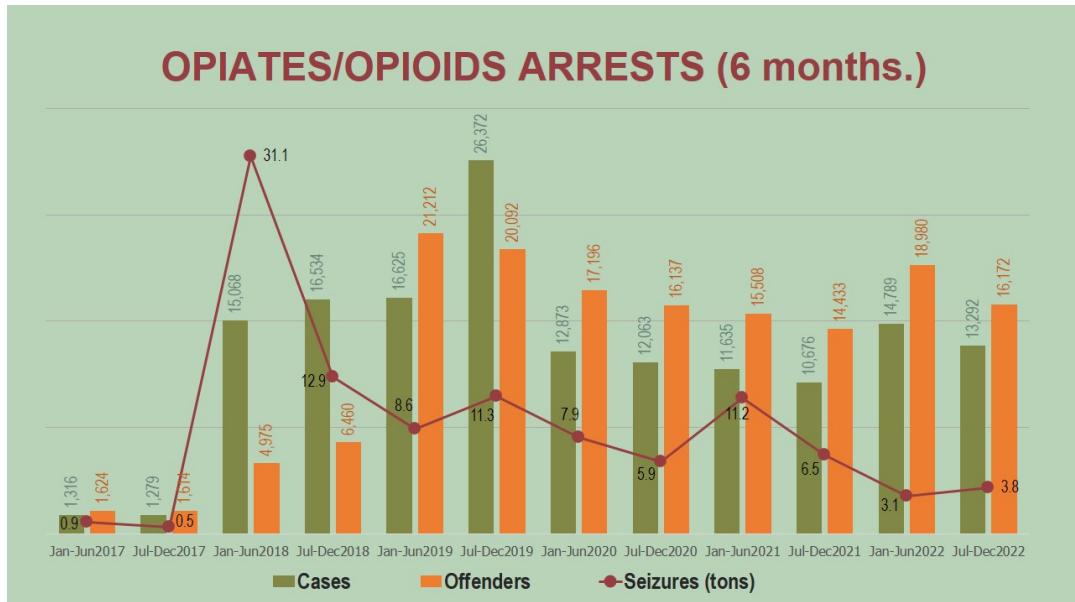


Figure 27: Opiates/Opioids arrested periodically

Codeine was the most Opiates/Opioids seized among the ASEAN Member States and accounted for 60.8% of all Opiates/Opioids seized by weight during 2017-2022. It varied from 30% to 85% of all Opiates/Opioids seized, with an average of 10.7 tons annually. In 2022, the Codeine seizure was 3.3 metric tons. Heroin was the most Opiates/Opioid seized among the ASEAN Member States in 2022. During 2017-2022, Heroin seized accounted for a quarter of all Opiates/Opioids seized by weight. During 2017-2022, it varied from 8% to 58% of all Opiates/Opioids seized, with an average of 4.4 tons annually. In 2022, Heroin seizure was four metric tons. Opium accounts for 13.7% of all Opiates/Opioids seized. During

2017-2022, it varied from 6.4% to 42.5% of all Opiates/Opioids seized, with an average of 2.4 tons annually. In 2022, the Opium seizure was 1.9 metric tons. The rest of the Opiates/Opioids seized were Methadone 2.4 kilograms and other was 38 kilograms.

According to the Opiates/Opioids classification, Codeine is the highest proportion by weight in almost every period. Heroin (No.3, No.4, unclassified), Opium (raw, prepared), Methadone, and Morphine were also seized constantly during every period. Other Opiates/Opioids were also frequently seized, such as Tramadol. Other Opiates/Opioids, such as Nalbuphine/Nubian (seized in 2018, 2021), were occasionally seized.

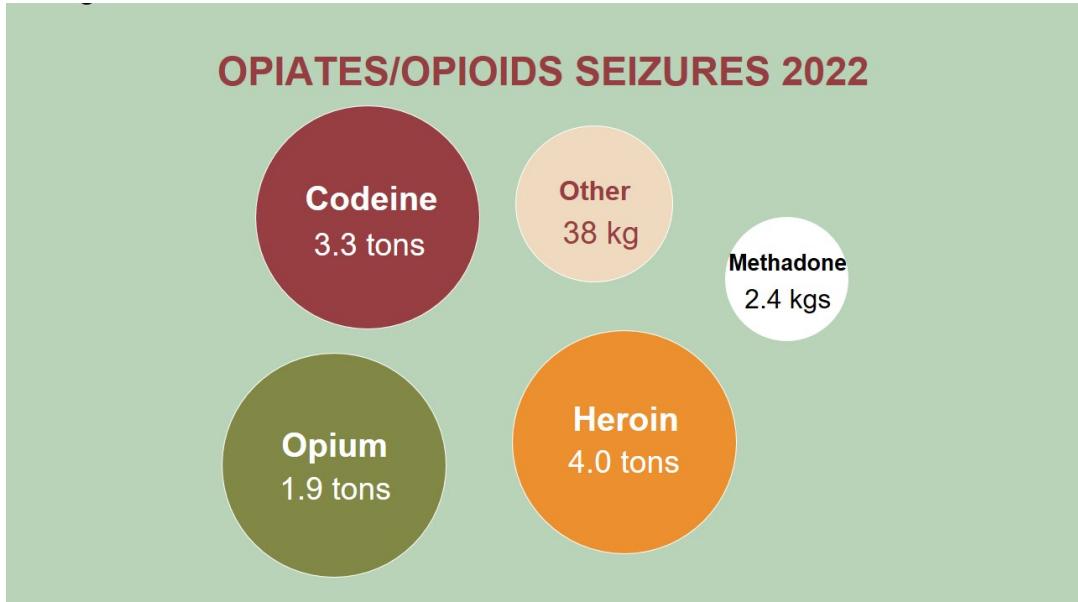


Figure 28: Opiates/Opioids seizures 2022

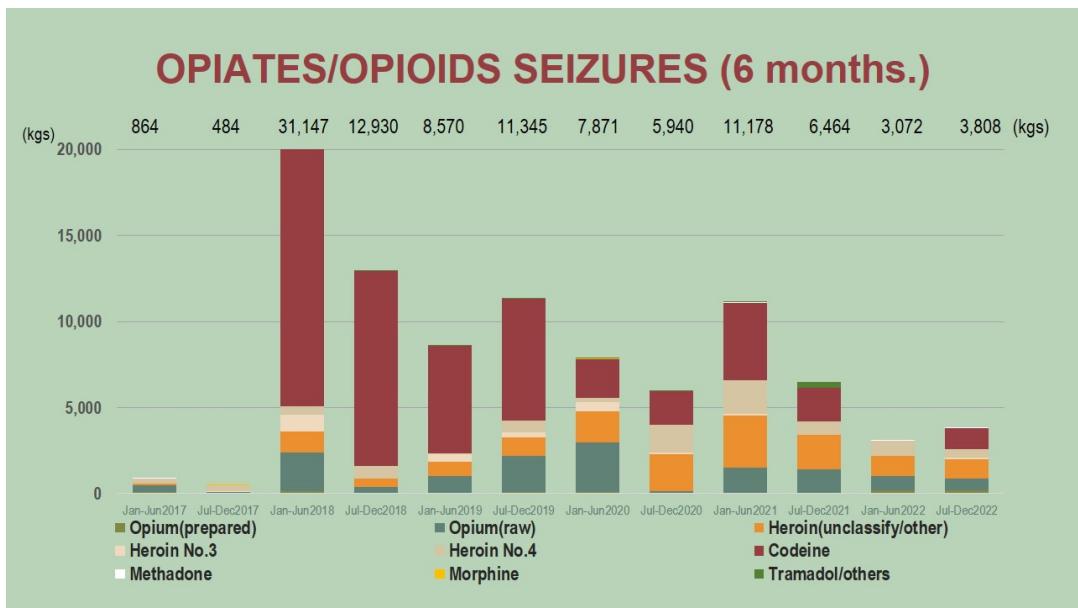


Figure 29: Opiates/Opioids seizures periodically

3. Cannabis

Cannabis is one of the old plants known, with records of its cultivation dating back thousands of years. Presumably, humans have known Cannabis for over 10,000 years (Abel, 2007).

The first evidence of the use of Cannabis was found in China, where archeological and historical findings indicate that the cannabis plant was cultivated there for fibers since 4.000 B.C. The use of Cannabis as a medicine and food ingredient by ancient Chinese was also reported (Li & Lin 1974).

Cannabis is a complex plant with over 400 chemical entities, of which over 60 are cannabinoid compounds. As a result, Cannabis can be classified as a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogen that affects the central nervous system. The three significant compounds in Cannabis are 1) Cannabinoid (CBN), a derivative of THC from oxidation; 2) Cannabidiol (CBD); and 3) Tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-9-tetra hydrocannabinol, THC). THC is the primary psychoactive cannabinoid in Cannabis, affecting brain function, memory, and motor control. Cannabis has become popular among drug users and has been legalized for medical and recreational use in some countries. Only Thailand has legalized Cannabis for medical use since early 2019.

During 2017-2022, over eighty thousand Cannabis users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States, with an average of over thirteen thousand

persons annually. The average age of treated Cannabis users was between 23 and 35 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 41.5:1 (ranging from 24.7:1 to 56.1:1 each year). Of these, 77.7% were new users (60% to 90% each year).

In 2022, over ten thousand ASEAN population who suffer from using Cannabis will have access to treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Cannabis users was between 27 and 32 years old, varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, 60.9% were new Cannabis users. In 2022, Cannabis users got treatment 3.8% increase from the past year. From 2017, this number of Cannabis users has decreased by 25.6%. Although Cannabis was legalized in Thailand and the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in 2019 in ASEAN, Cannabis users 'access to treatment within ASEAN has decreased by 49.6%.

Considering the variation in a year, most Cannabis users get treated early each year; around two third of all Cannabis users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 49% to 71%. In early 2022, 49.2% of all Cannabis users accessed treatment. The number was a 26.9% decrease from the past year. In comparison, 50.8% of all Cannabis users accessed treatment in late 2022, a 75.1% increase from the past year.

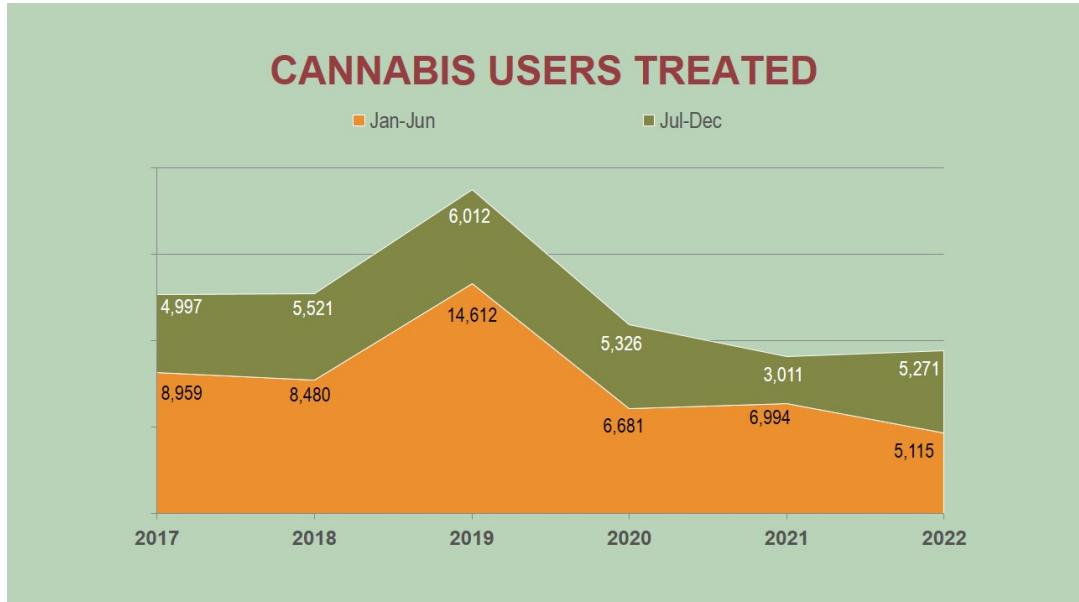


Figure 30: Cannabis users treated

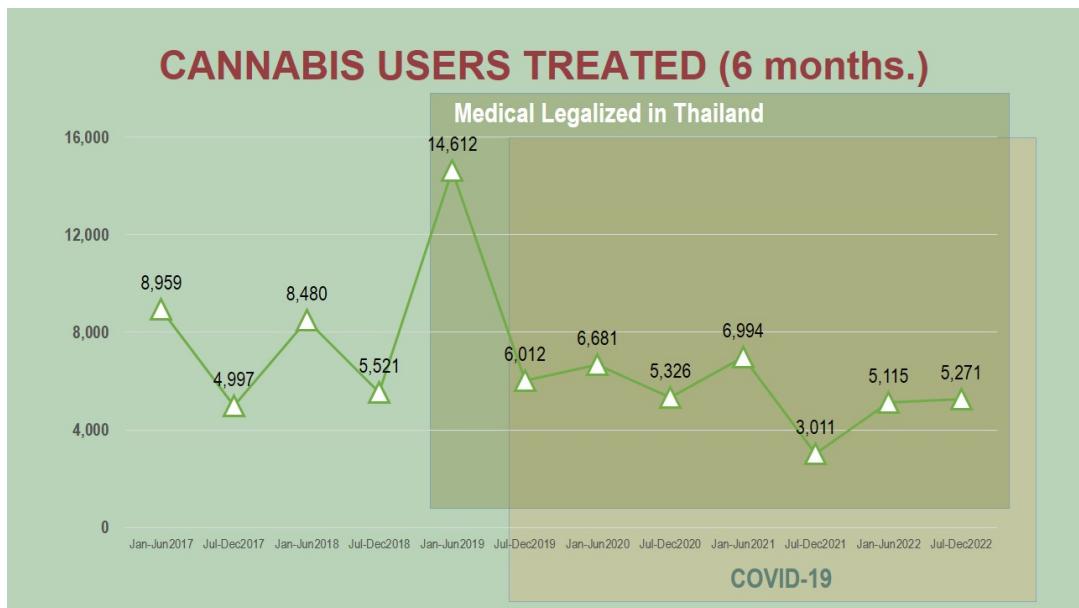


Figure 31: Cannabis users are treated periodically

During 2017-2022, there were over one hundred thousand Cannabis related cases, with over 156 thousand offenders arrested. Over twenty-one thousand metric

tons of Cannabis were seized within the ASEAN Member States. The average seizure was 3650 metric tons annually. In 2022, there were over thirteen thousand

Cannabis-related cases, a 21.8% decrease from 2021. Cannabis-related offenders in 2022 were arrested over seventeen thousand persons, a 13.7% decline from 2021. Over seven thousand metric tons of Cannabis were seized, a slight increase from the past year. These seizures huge

increased since 2017. Although the medical legalization in Thailand and the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, Cannabis within ASEAN has increased thrice. It should be noted that Cannabis prescription users in Thailand were omitted.

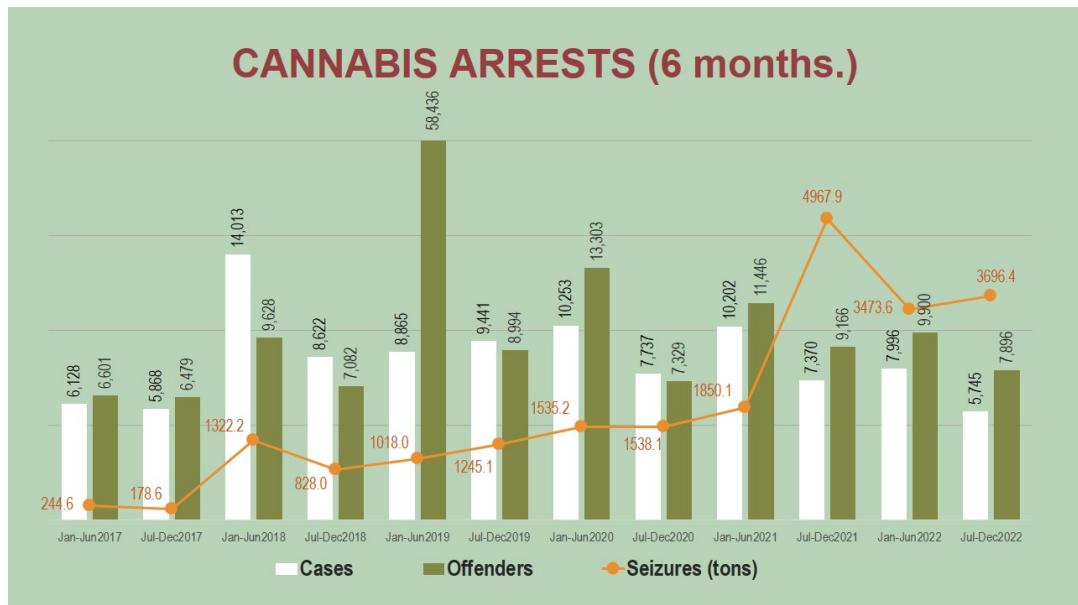


Figure 32: Cannabis arrested periodically

Cannabis plants were the most seized among the ASEAN Member States and accounted for 98% of all Cannabis seized by weight during 2017-2022. It varied from 91% to 99% of all Cannabis seized, with an average of 3459 tons annually. In 2022, the Cannabis plant seizure was over 7000 metric tons. Cannabis dried was also high volume seized among the ASEAN Member States in 2022. During 2017-2022, dried Cannabis seized accounted for 2% of all Cannabis seized by weight. During 2017-

2022, it varied from 1.3% to 8.5% of all Cannabis seized, with an average of 70.6 tons annually. In 2022, dried Cannabis seizure was over 150 metric tons. Cannabis resin accounts for less than 1% of all Cannabis seized. During 2017-2022, Cannabis resin seized varied from 9 kilograms to 607 kilograms, averaging 150 kilograms annually. In 2022, the Cannabis resin seizure was 268 kilograms. The rest of the Cannabis seized was Cannabis oil/jelly 6.2 kilograms.

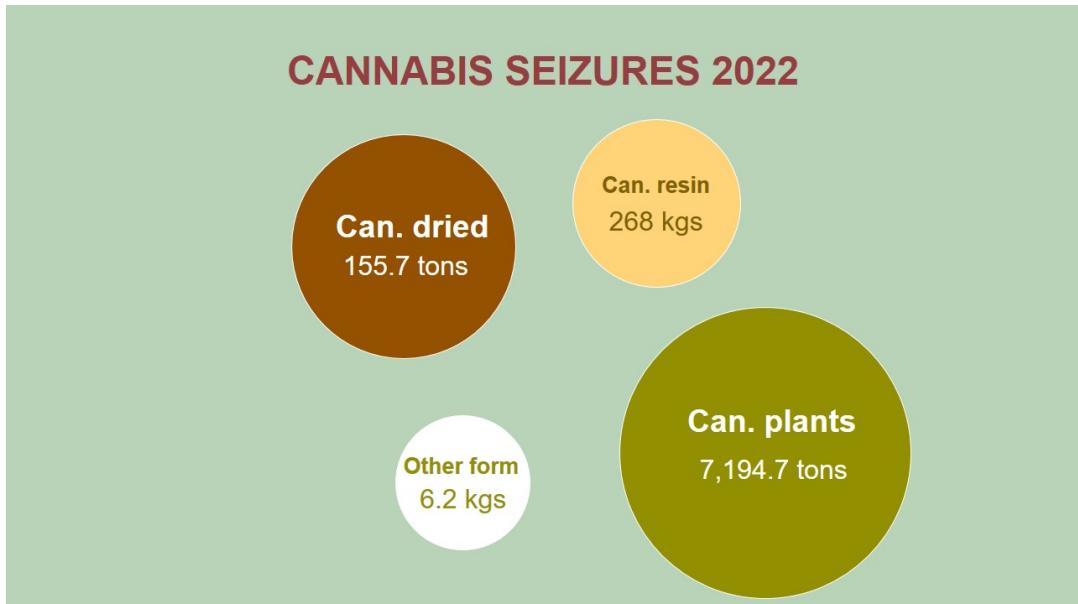


Figure 33: Cannabis seizures 2022

According to the Cannabis classification, Cannabis plants are in the highest proportion by weight in every period. Cannabis dried and Cannabis resin was also

seized constantly during every period. Cannabis seeds were also frequently seized, while Cannabis oil was occasionally seized.

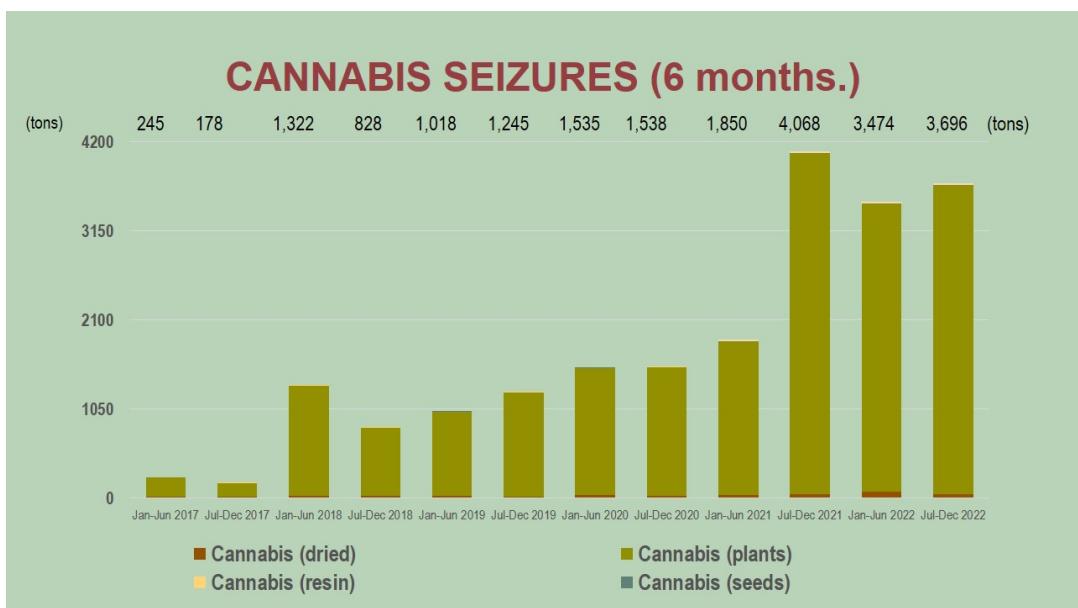


Figure 34: Cannabis seizures periodically

4. NPS

According to the World Drug Report 2013 (UNODC, 2013), New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) is an umbrella term for unregulated psychoactive or synthetic substances that produce similar effects to illegal drugs or mimic the effects of controlled drugs, not for medical and scientific purposes. The majority of NPS are currently not under international control by the United Nations Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs 1961 or the United Nations Convention on Psychotropic Drugs 1971. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) classifies NPS into seven categories according to pharmacology and health consequences: Synthetic Cannabinoids, Synthetic Cathinones, Ketamine, Phenethylamines, Piperazines, plant-based substances, and miscellaneous substances. NPS in this report will be based on the classification stated, although NPS defines each ASEAN Member State differently. Among the ASEAN Member States, several variations of NPS have been seized. Examples included mitragyna speciosa (Kratom), Ketamine, Khat, Cathinone, Synthetic Cathinones (bath salts), synthetic cannabinoids, and others.

Archaeological evidence suggests that betel nut was chewed approximately 13 000 years ago in Timor (Glover 1971, 1977) and 10700 years ago in Thailand (Gorman 1970; Yen 1977). Mitragyna speciosa (Kratom) is indigenous to Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, and Papua New Guinea. It was first formally described by the

Dutch colonial botanist Pieter Korthals in 1839 (Rech et al., 2017). Kratom has opioid properties and some stimulant-like effects. In August 2021, Thailand legalized Kratom.

During 2017-2022, over 28 thousand NPS users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Opiates/Opioids users was between 18 and 28 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 16.6:1 (ranging from 5.9:1 to 52:1 each year). Of these, 77.9% were new NPS users (ranging from 64% to 91% each year).

In 2022, almost three thousand ASEAN population who suffered from using NPS had access to treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Opiates/Opioids users was between 26 and 28 years old, varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, 64.1% were new NPS users. In 2022, NPS users got treatment, an 11.8% increase from the past year. From 2017, these NPS users decrease by 62.5%. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, drug users' access to treatment within ASEAN has reduced by 51.6%.

Three NPS users in ASEAN in 2022 were Kratom, Ketamine, and others (Synthetic Cannabinoids, Synthetic Cathinones, etc.). Kratom was the most widely abused among NPS users, accounting for over 70% of all NPS users. The second most commonly used were Ketamine, and other NPS, respectively.

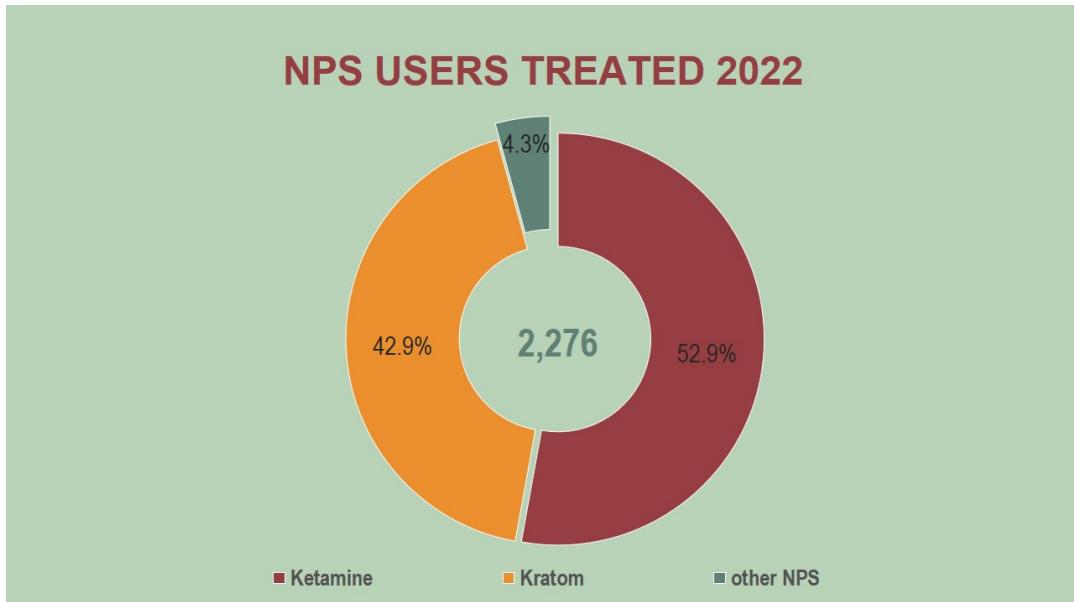


Figure 35: NPS users treated in 2022

Of all NPS users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States during 2017-2022, over twenty-one thousand persons were Kratom users. However, the proportion of Kratom users may vary between 22% to 88% each year. In 2022 the proportion of Kratom users was 22.5% (no data reported in Thailand because Kratom was legalized). In comparison, over seven thousand persons were Ketamine users who accessed treatment during 2017-2022. The percentage of Ketamine users may vary between 12% to 78% each year. In 2022 the proportion of Ketamine users was 77.1%. Although other NPS users have been

reported as under one hundred, accounting for less than 1% of all NPS users, it has been found occasionally.

Considering the variation in a year, most NPS users get treated early each year. During 2017-2022, 59.4% of all NPS users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 50% to 87%. In early 2022, 86.6% of all NPS users accessed treatment. The number was a 50.6% increase from the past year. In comparison, 40.6% of all NPS users accessed treatment in late 2022, a 57.9% decrease from the past year.

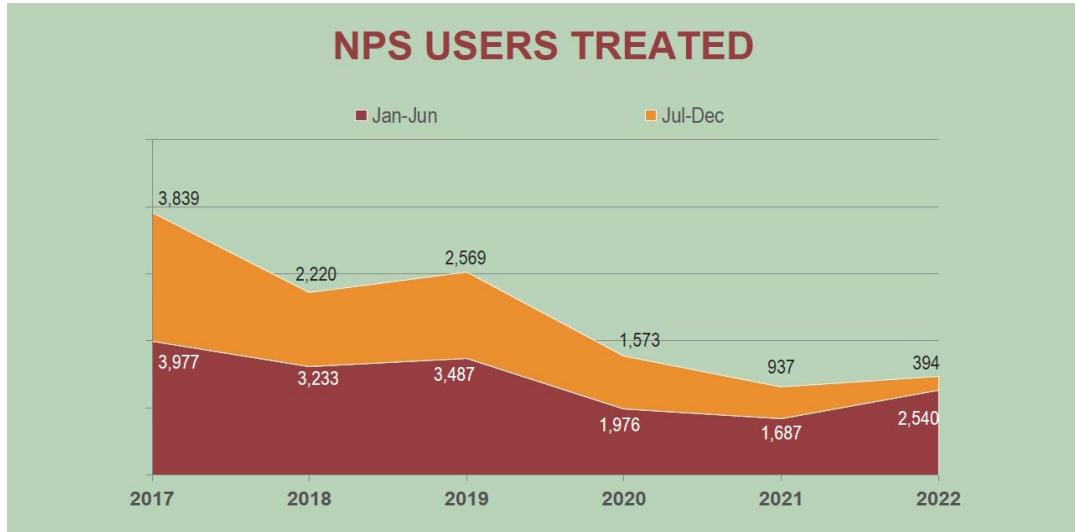


Figure 36: NPS users treated periodically

Kratom is still the highest proportion accounting for 73.9% of all NPS users treated. The proportion varies from 18% to 94% in each period, highest in early 2017 and lowest in early 2022. A quarter of NPS users were Ketamine. The percentage of Ketamine users may vary between 5% to 81% each period, highest in early 2022 and lowest in

early 2017. Other NPS users accounted for 0.3% of all NPS users, ranging from 0 to 2% periodically, the highest in early 2020. It should be noted that many drug users in Thailand were treated in a compulsory system. Thus, after August 2021, Kratom was legalized, and there were no Kratom users in the compulsory system in Thailand.

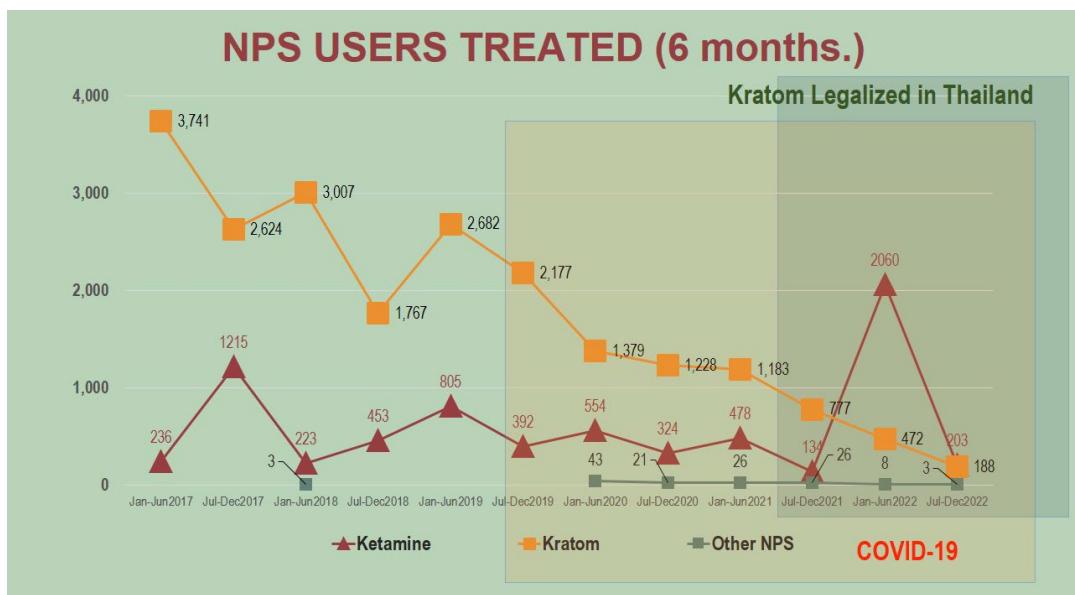


Figure 37: NPS users treated periodically by drug types

During 2017-2022, there were over 1.8 hundred thousand NPS-related cases, with over two hundred thousand offenders arrested. The ASEAN Member States seized over two thousand metric tons of NPS. The average seizures were 366 metric tons annually. In 2022, over ten thousand cases of NPS-related were arrested, a 45.4% decrease from 2021. NPS-related offenders in 2022 were over fifteen thousand

persons, a 39.3% decrease from 2021. Two hundred thirty metric tons of NPS were seized, accounting for half of the past year. From 2017, these seizures increased by 84%. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, NPS within ASEAN has decreased by 43.4%. It should be noted that the reason for this drastic decrease in NPS seized in 2022 was that Kratom was legalized in Thailand.

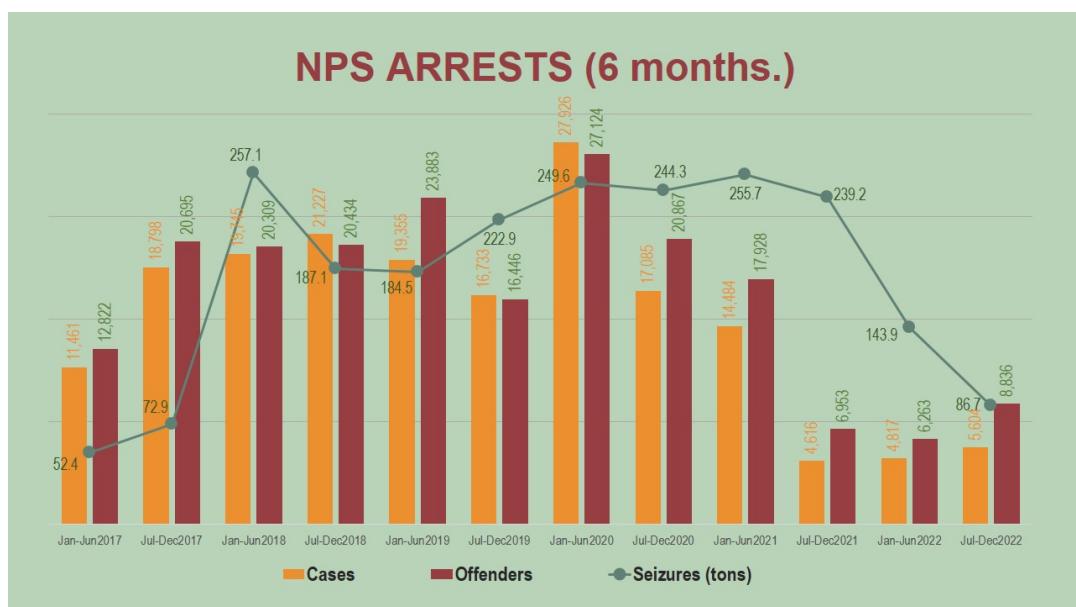


Figure 38: NPS arrested periodically

Like NPS users, Kratom was the most NPS seized among the ASEAN Member States and accounted for 97.9% of all NPS seized by weight during 2017-2022. It varied from 90% to 99% of all NPS seized, with an average of 358 tons annually. In 2022, the Kratom seizure was 209 metric tons. Ketamine was the second NPS seized among the ASEAN Member States in 2022. During 2017-2022, Ketamine seized accounted for 1.7% of all NPS seized by weight. During 2017-2022, it varied from

0.4% to 9% of all NPS seized, with an average of 6.2 metric tons annually. In 2022, the Ketamine seizure was twenty metric tons. Other NPS (Khat, Synthetic Cannabinoids, Synthetic Cathinones, etc.) account for less than 1% of all NPS seized. During 2017-2022, an average of 1.4 tons was seized annually. In 2022, the other NPS were seized; Synthetic Cannabinoids 24 kilograms, Synthetic Cathinones, and others less than one kilogram.

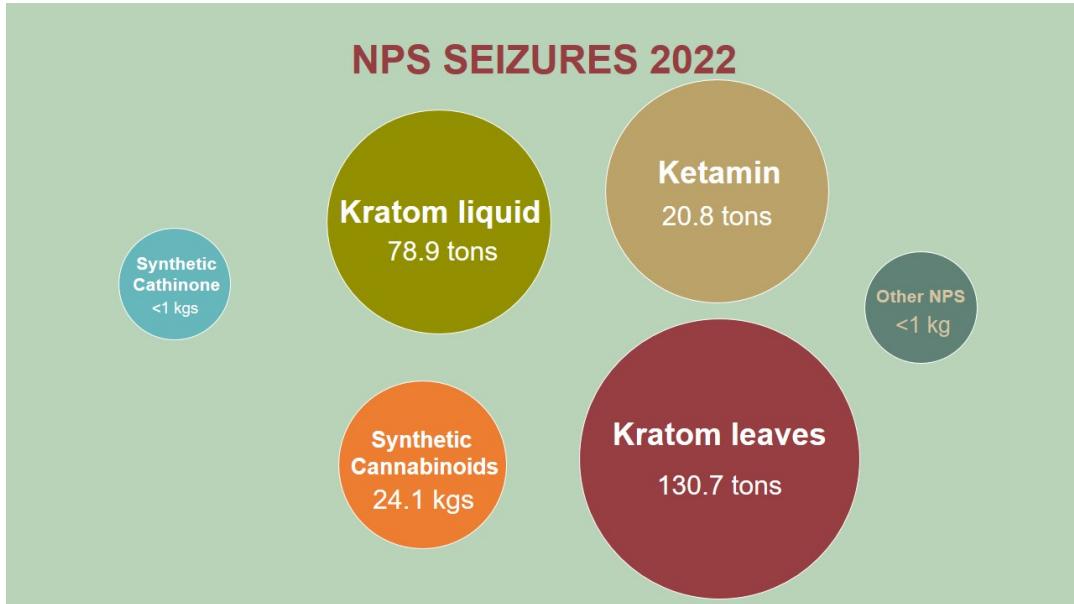


Figure 39: NPS seizures 2022

According to the NPS classification, Kratom is the highest proportion by weight in almost every period. Ketamine was also seized constantly during every period. Other

NPS were frequently seized, such as Synthetic Cannabinoids, Synthetic Cathinones, and Cathinones. Other NPS were occasionally seized, such as Khat (in 2018, 2019).

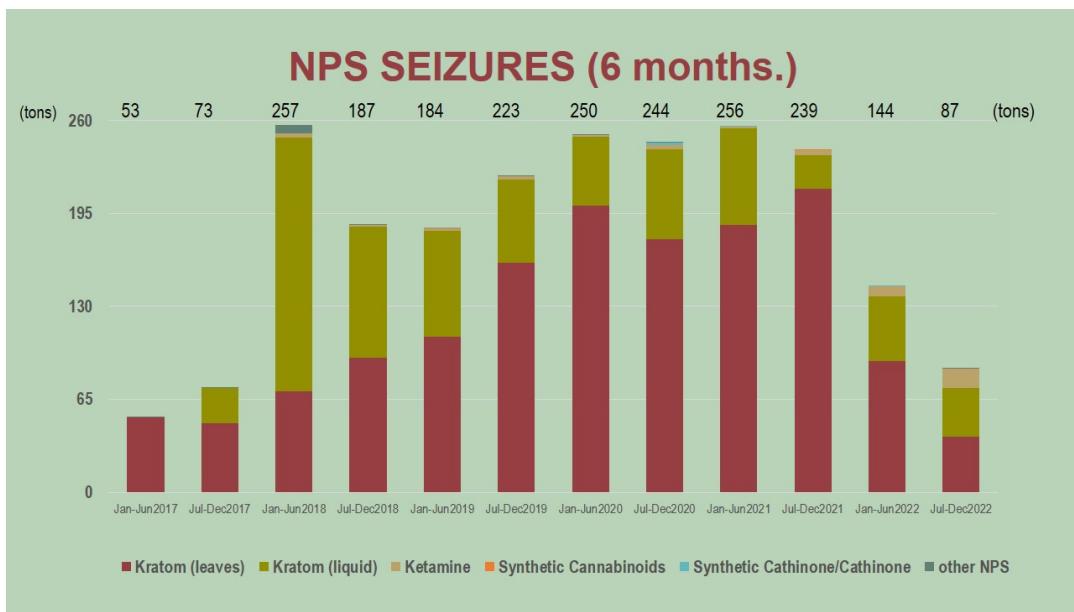


Figure 40: NPS seizures periodically

5. Cocaine

Cocaine, scientifically called methyl ester of benzoylecggonine, or coke, is a natural substance found in coca leaves for its psychoactive alkaloid. The alkaloid content of coca leaves differs depending on species, climate, height above mean sea level, plant age, and other factors. The primary psychoactive substance in coca leaves is Cocaine (benzoylmethylecgonine), generally in the 0.3-1% range. On the street, Cocaine comes in either of two forms (1) cocaine hydrochloride salt or base, which is a white, odorless crystalline powder with a bitter, numbing taste, and (2) cocaine sulfate or crack or rock, which is freebase in white to light brown colored, waxy rock-like substance.

Cocaine is an addictive stimulant drug obtained from the leaves of Coca, after extraction from Coca leaves and further processing into cocaine hydrochloride (powdered Cocaine). Cocaine stimulates the reward pathway in the brain. Mental effects may include intense happiness, sexual arousal, loss of contact with reality, or agitation. Physical effects may include a fast heart rate, sweating, and dilated pupils.

Although Cocaine is not popular in ASEAN, a few users were found. During 2017-2022, over two thousand Cocaine users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated

Cocaine users was between 27 and 32 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 9.1:1 (ranging from 3.9:1 to 14.4:1 each year). Of these, 88.4% were new Cocaine users (ranging from 74% to 93% each year).

In 2022, fifteen hundred ASEAN population suffering from Cocaine had access to treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Opiates/Opioids users was between 27 and 32 years old, varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, three-quarters were new Cocaine users. In 2022, Cocaine users got treatment; a five times increase from the past year. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, drug users' access to treatment within ASEAN has dramatically increased.

Considering the variation in a year, most Cocaine users get treated early each year. 84.1% of all Cocaine users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 17% to 98%. In early 2022, 97.7% of all Cocaine users accessed treatment. The number was five times increased from the past year. In comparison, 2.3% of all Cocaine users accessed treatment in late 2022, a 3.5 times increase from the past year.

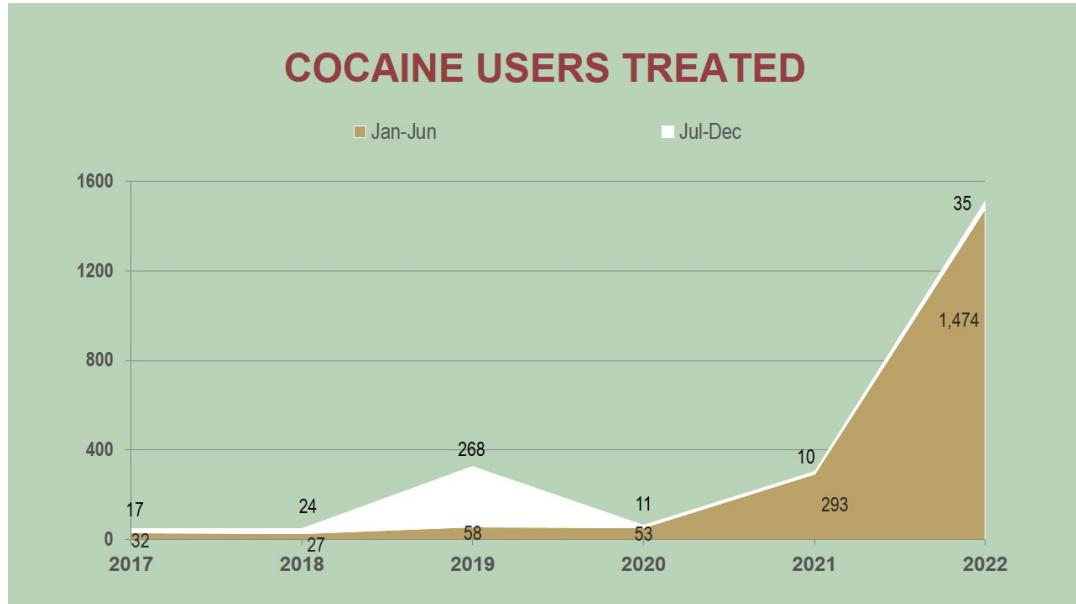


Figure 41: Cocaine users treated

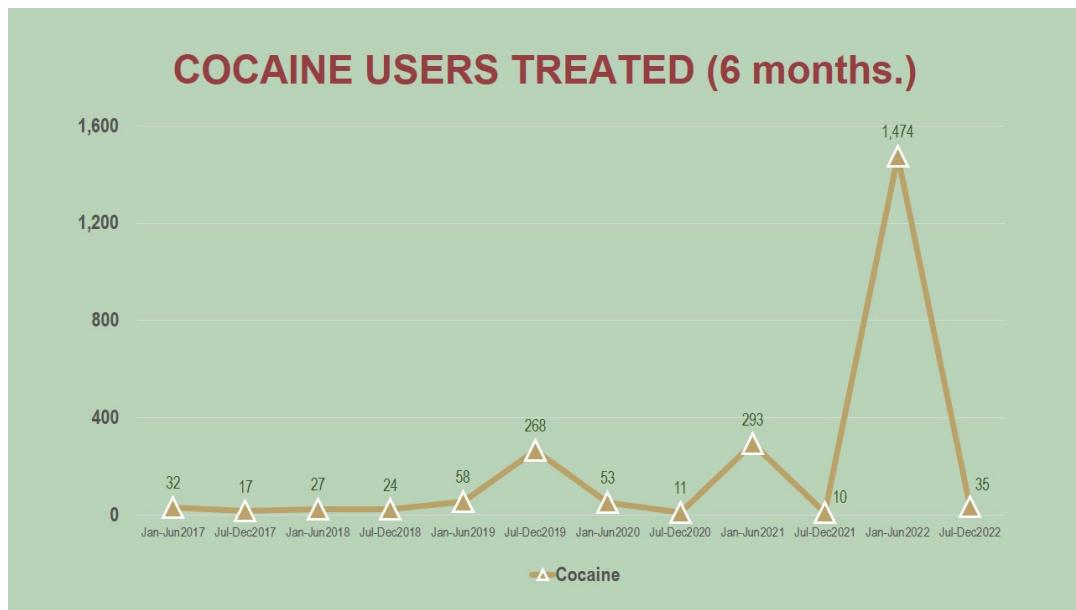


Figure 42: Cocaine users treated periodically

During 2017-2022, there were over five hundred Cocaine related cases, with almost six hundred offenders arrested. Over 17 metric tons of Cocaine were seized within

the ASEAN Member States. The average seizures were over 2.8 metric tons annually. In 2022, there were 82 Cocaine related cases, a 46.4% increase from 2021. 93

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Cocaine-related offenders in 2022 were arrested, a 36.8% increase from 2021. Six hundred forty-one kilograms of Cocaine were seized, thirteen times increase from the past year. From 2017, these seizures

were twelve times. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, Cocaine within ASEAN has hugely decreased.

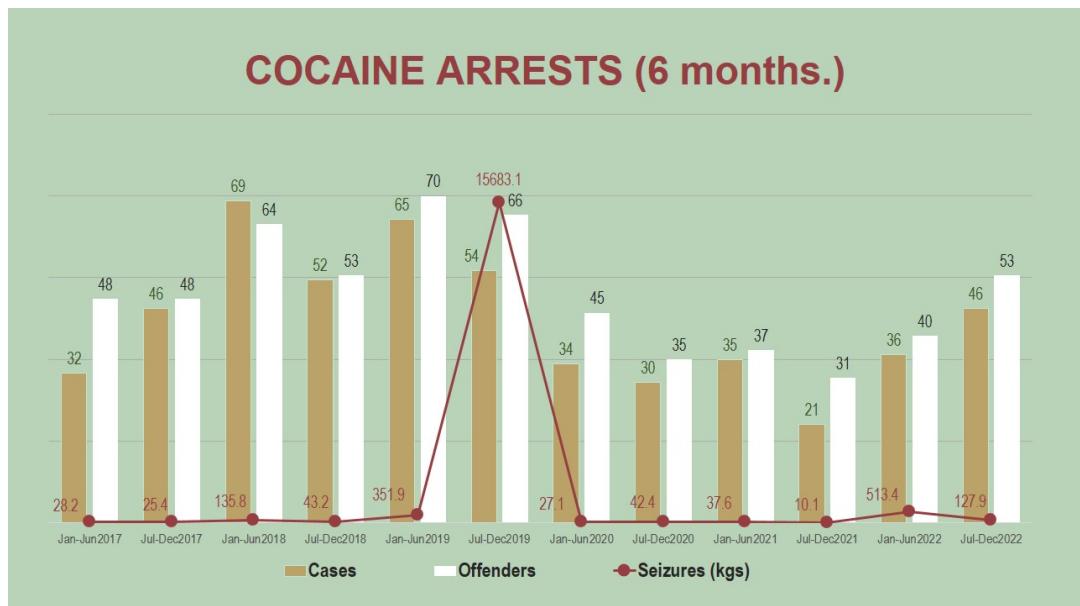


Figure 43: Cocaine arrested periodically

6. CNS Depressants

Central Nervous System (CNS) Depressants include sedatives, tranquilizers, and hypnotics that can slow the brain and central nervous system. CNS depressants can be divided into benzodiazepines, barbiturates, methaqualone, and GHB (Gamma-Hydroxybutyric). The substance may also treat anxiety, acute stress reactions, and sleep disorders. An overdose intake may cause coma, shock, and death.

In ASEAN over-the-counter drug market has been recognized for years. Of all over-the-counter drugs, CNS was used as a

mixture of illicit drugs and a replacement. During 2017-2022, four thousand CNS users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated CNS users was between 28 and 40 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 19.5:1 (ranging from 2.2:1 to 34.5:1 each year). Of these, 74.7% were new CNS users (ranging from 6% to 98% each year).

In 2022, almost nine hundred ASEAN populations who suffer from using CNS had access to treatment within the ASEAN

Member States. The average age of treated CNS users was between 29 and 40 years old, varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, 6.6% were new CNS users. In 2022, 882 CNS users got treatment, a 6.8 times increase from the past year. From 2017, these CNS users increase by sixteen times. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN,

drug users access to treatment within ASEAN has decreased thrice.

CNS users found in ASEAN in 2022 were Benzodiazepines and other CNS (unclassified). Benzodiazepines were the most widely abused among CNS users, accounting for over 90% of all CNS users. The other CNS commonly used were barbiturates, sedative-hypnotic, and unclassified psychotropic substances.

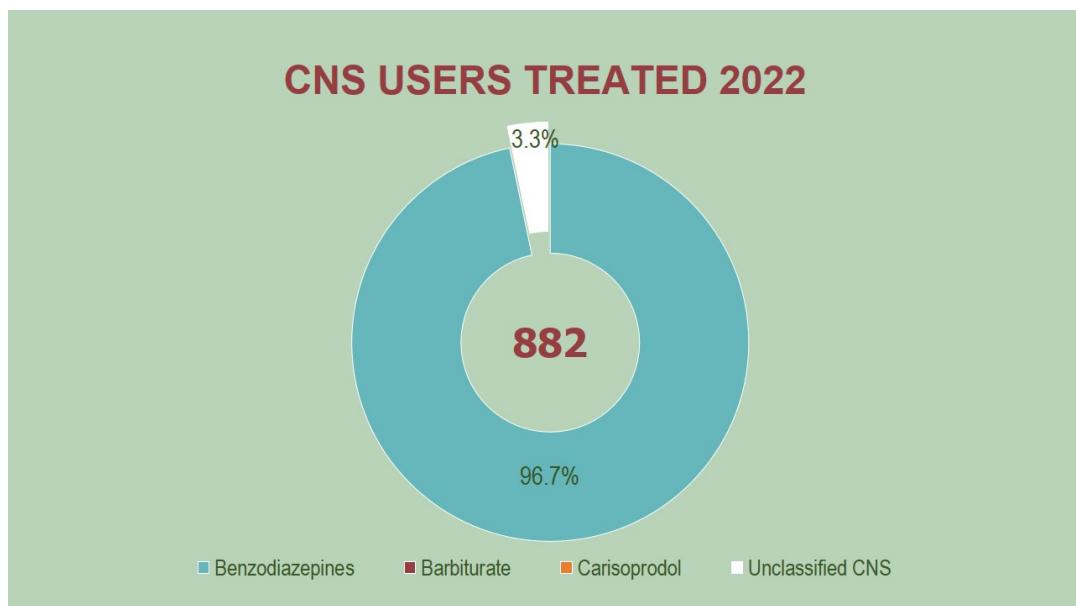


Figure 44: CNS users treated in 2022

Considering the variation in a year, most CNS users get treated early each year. Around 79.9% of all CNS users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 57% to 88%. In early 2022,

222 CNS users accessed treatment. The number was a 133.7% increase from the past year. In comparison, 20.1% of all CNS users accessed treatment in late 2022, a 22.9% increase from the past year.

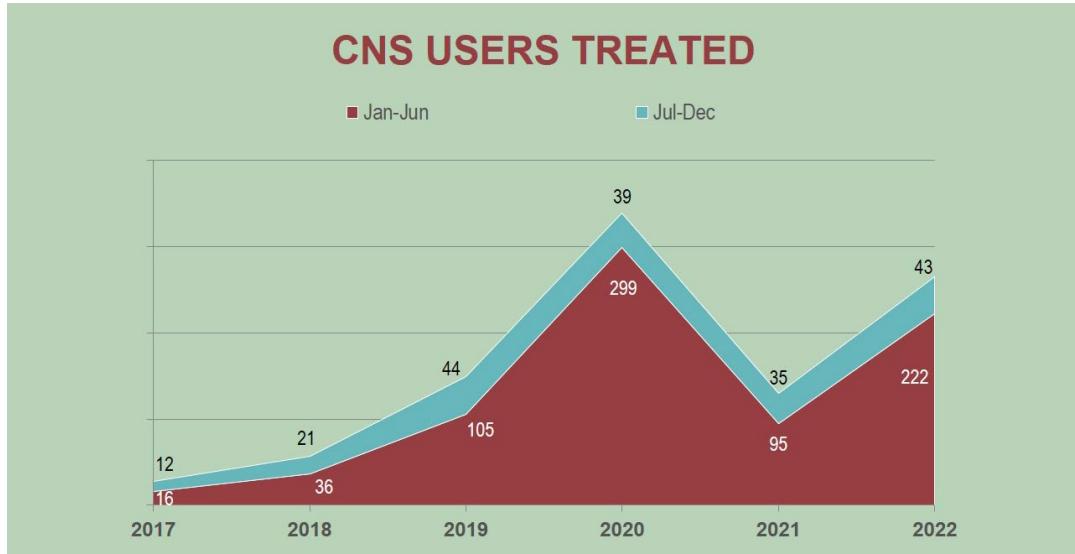


Figure 45: CNS users treated periodically

Of all CNS users accessing treatment within the ASEAN Member States during 2017-2022, 1144 were Benzodiazepine users. However, the proportion of Benzodiazepines users may vary between 61% to 100% each year. In 2022 the proportion of Benzodiazepines users was 89.1%. In comparison, 67 persons were other

psychotropic users who accessed treatment during 2017-2022. The percentage of other psychotropic users may vary between 0% to 11% each year. In 2022 the proportion of other psychotropic users was 10.9%. It should be noted that barbiturates, sedative-hypnotic, and unclassified psychotropic substances were reported occasionally.

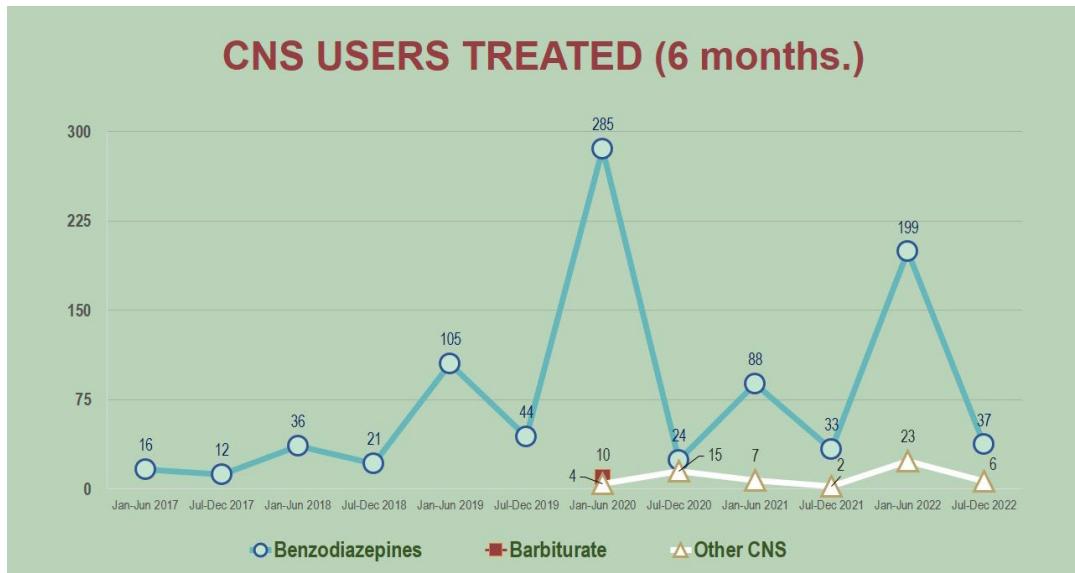


Figure 46: CNS users treated periodically by drug types

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During 2017-2022, there were over fifty-three thousand CNS-related cases, with over sixteen thousand offenders arrested. Over three metric tons of CNS were seized within the ASEAN Member States. The average seizures were over 529 kilograms annually. In 2022, over 2,500 CNS-related cases were arrested, a 26.7% increase from

2021. Over 3700 CNS-related offenders were arrested in 2022, a 10.3% increase from 2021. Over three hundred kilograms of CNS were seized a vast decrease from the past year. These seizures huge increased since 2017. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, CNS within ASEAN has decreased by 40%.

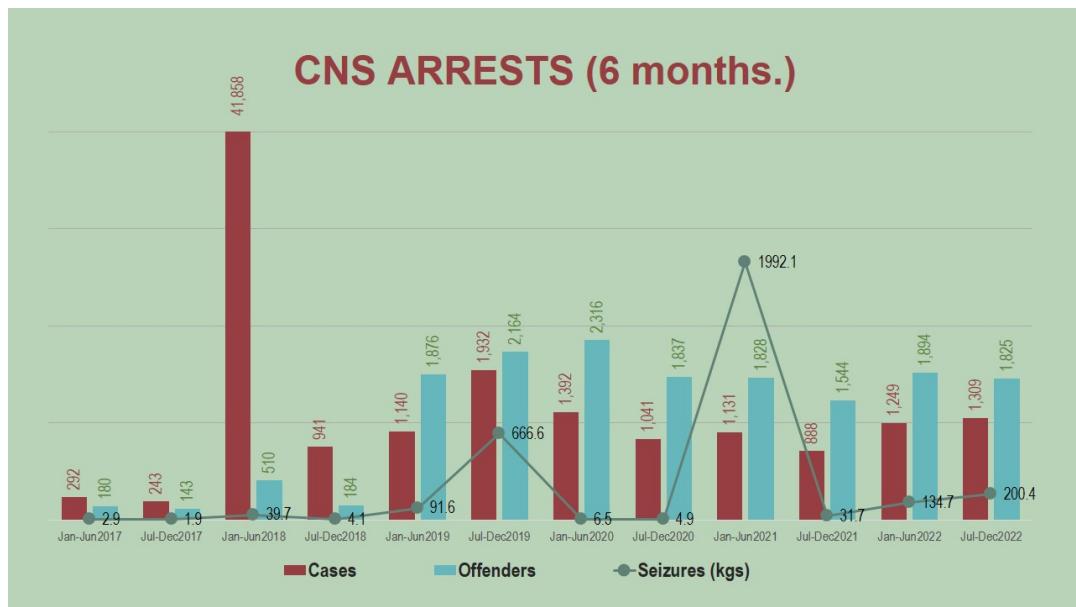


Figure 47: CNS arrested periodically

Unlike CNS users, Nimetazepam (Erimin 5) was the most CNS seized among the ASEAN Member States, accounting for two-thirds of all CNS seized by weight during 2017-2022. It varied from 1% to 98% of all CNS seized, with an average of 336 kilograms annually. In 2022, the Nimetazepam seizure was small. Benzodiazepines account for 9% of all CNS seized. During 2017-2022, it varied from 0.1% to 78.4% of all CNS seized, with an average of 47 kilograms annually. In 2022, the Benzodiazepines seizure was 160 kilograms. Barbiturate was the most CNS seized frequency reported among the ASEAN

Member States. During 2017-2022, Barbiturates seized accounted for 4% of all CNS seized by weight. During 2017-2022, it varied from 1% to 52% of all CNS seized, with an average of 20 kilograms annually. In 2022, the Barbiturate seizure was 13 kilograms. Carisoprodol (muscle relaxant) was seized among the ASEAN Member States in 2022, which was 128 kilograms. The rest of the CNS seized are GHB and unclassified psychotropic substances. In 2022, the unclassified psychotropic substances seizure was 10.5 kilograms.

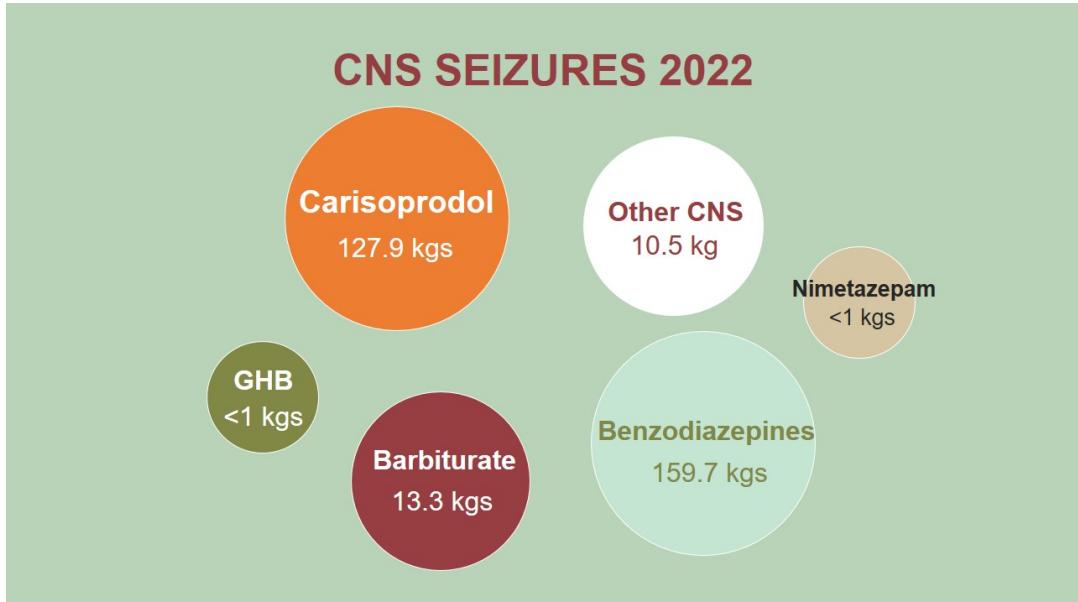


Figure 48: CNS seizures 2022

According to the CNS classification, Nimetazepam, Benzodiazepines, and Barbiturates have been reported in every period

since 2017. Unclassified psychotropic substances were also seized constantly.

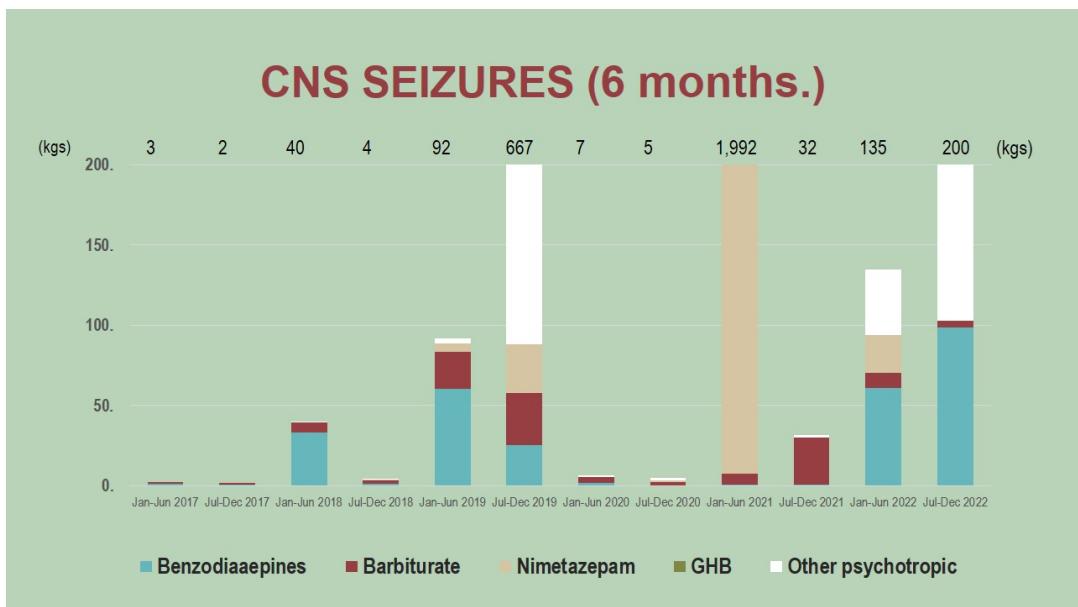


Figure 49: CNS seizures periodically

7. Hallucinogen

Hallucinogens are psychoactive agents that can cause hallucinations, perceptual anomalies, and other substantial subjective changes in thoughts, emotions, and consciousness. The common hallucinogens are psychedelics, dissociatives, and deliriants, which can treat mood disorders and chronic pain. Hallucinogen affects serotonin, dopamine, and glutamate, causing changes in perception, thought, emotion, and consciousness, ranging from illusions to hallucinations, such as hearing voices and distorted vision. Hallucinogenic drugs are popular for recreational and medical purposes in European countries, the United States, and England. Synthetic psychotropic drugs such as lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD), and Psilocybe mushroom, commonly known as magic mushroom, is the most widely used recreational psychotropic substance.

During 2017-2022, over seven thousand Hallucinogens users accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Hallucinogens users was between 14 and 35 years old and varied from country to country. The sex ratio (male to female) was 16.2:1 (ranging from 9.7:1 to 28.9:1 each year). Of these, 59.8% were new Hallucinogens users (ranging from 11.4% to 76.3% each year).

In 2022, over five hundred ASEAN populations who suffer from using Hallucinogens had access to treatment within the ASEAN Member States. The average age of treated Opiates/Opioids users was between 31 and 35 years old, varies from country to country, and is primarily male. Of these, 11.4% were new drug users. In 2022, Hallucinogens drug users got treatment, a slight decrease from the past year. From 2017, Hallucinogens users decreased two times. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, drug users' access to treatment within ASEAN has decreased 5.8 times.

Three types of Hallucinogens users were found in ASEAN in 2022: Inhalants, LSD, and Magic Mushrooms. Inhalants were the most widely abused among Hallucinogens users, accounting for over 93.8% of all Hallucinogens users. The second most commonly used were LSD, and Magic Mushroom, respectively.

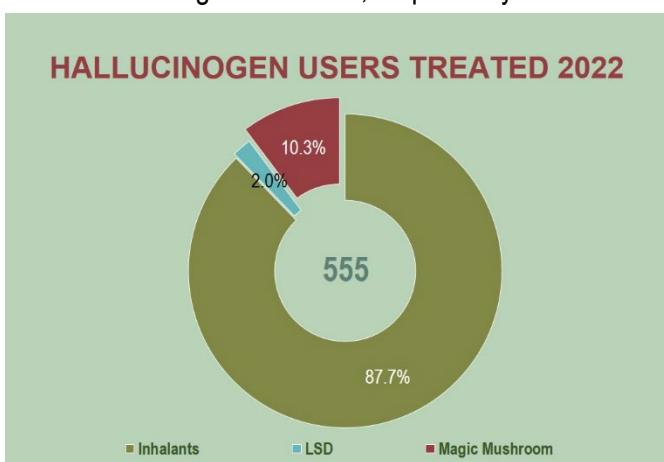


Figure 50: Hallucinogens users treated in 2022

Of all Hallucinogens users who accessed treatment within the ASEAN Member States during 2017-2022, over five thousand persons were Inhalants users. However, the proportion of Inhalants users may vary between 71% to 99% each year. In 2022 the proportion of Inhalants users was 91.3%. In comparison, over three hundred persons were LSD users who accessed treatment during 2017-2022. The percentage of LSD users may vary between 0.1% to 28% each year. In 2022 the proportion of LSD users was 8.7%. Although a few Magic

Mushroom users have been reported, it has been found occasionally.

Considering the variation in a year, most Hallucinogens users get treated early each year. 62.8% of all Hallucinogens users accessed treatment in the first half. The proportion may vary from 51% to 73%. In early 2022, 51.6% of all Hallucinogens users accessed treatment. The number was an 83% decrease from the past year. In comparison, 37.3% of all Hallucinogens users accessed treatment in late 2022, a 71% decrease from the past year.

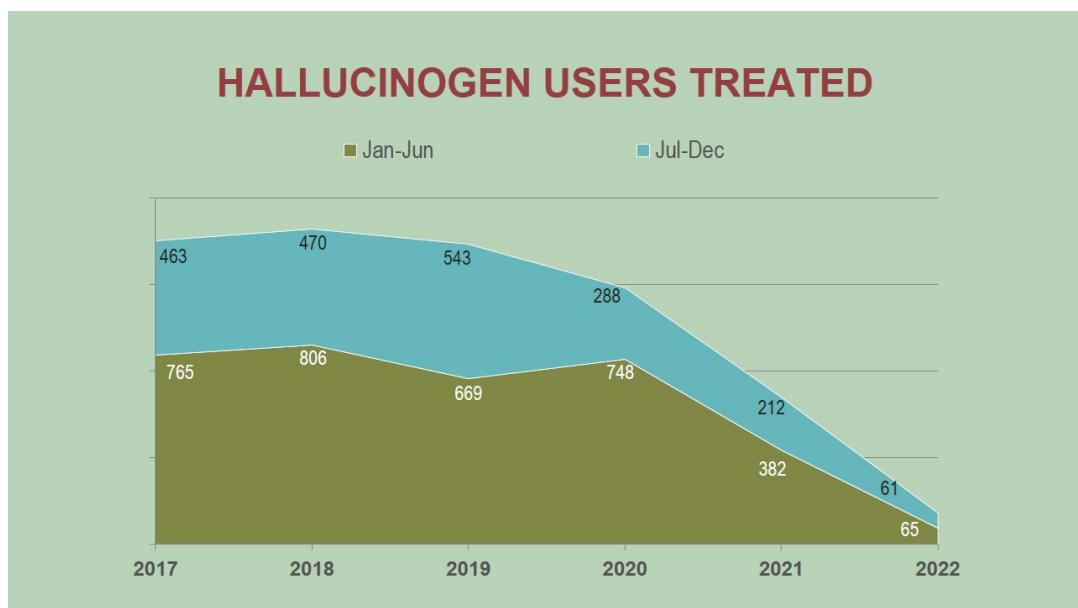


Figure 51: Hallucinogens users treated periodically

Inhalants are still the highest proportion accounting for 93.8% of all Hallucinogens users treated. The proportion varies from 61% to 100% in each period, highest in late 2017 and lowest in early 2020. Around 6.1% were LSD users. The

percentage of LSD users may vary between 0% to 38% in each period, highest in early 2020 and lowest in late 2017. Magic Mushroom users accounted for less than 1% of all Hallucinogens users and were occasionally reported.

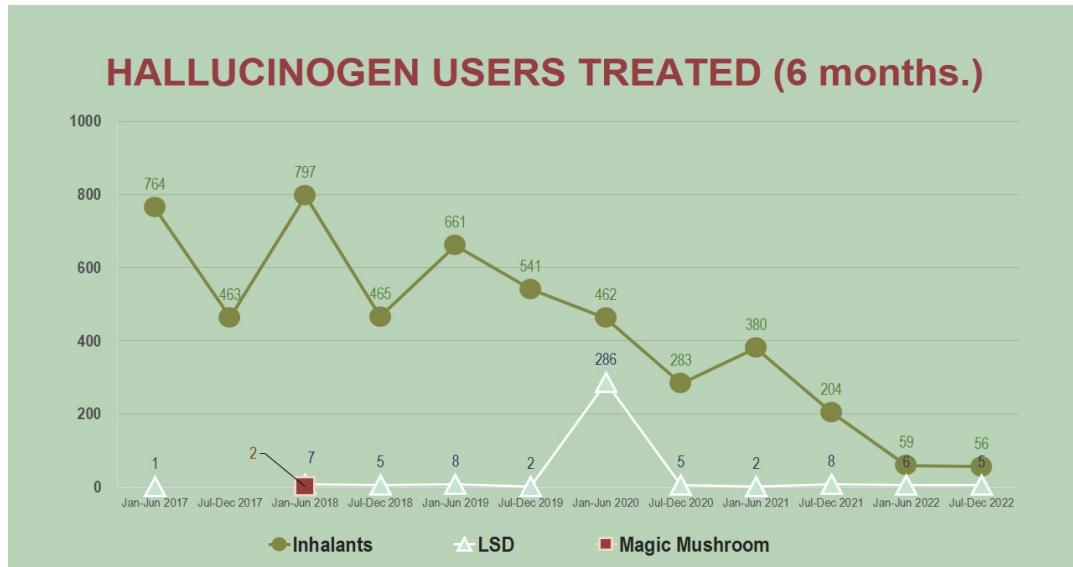


Figure 52: Hallucinogens users treated periodically by drug types

During 2017-2022, there were 2.5 thousand cases of Hallucinogens-related, with almost three thousand offenders arrested. Over one hundred kilograms of Hallucinogens were seized within the ASEAN Member States. The average seizures were 20 kilograms annually. In 2022, 18 cases of Hallucinogens-related were arrested, a drastic decrease from

2021. Sixteen persons were detained as hallucinogens-related offenders in 2022, a drastic decrease from 2021. Thirteen kilograms of Hallucinogens were seized a 28.7% decrease from the past year. From 2017, these seizures decreased to 49.4%. Although the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in late 2019 in ASEAN, Hallucinogens within ASEAN have decreased to 22.8%.

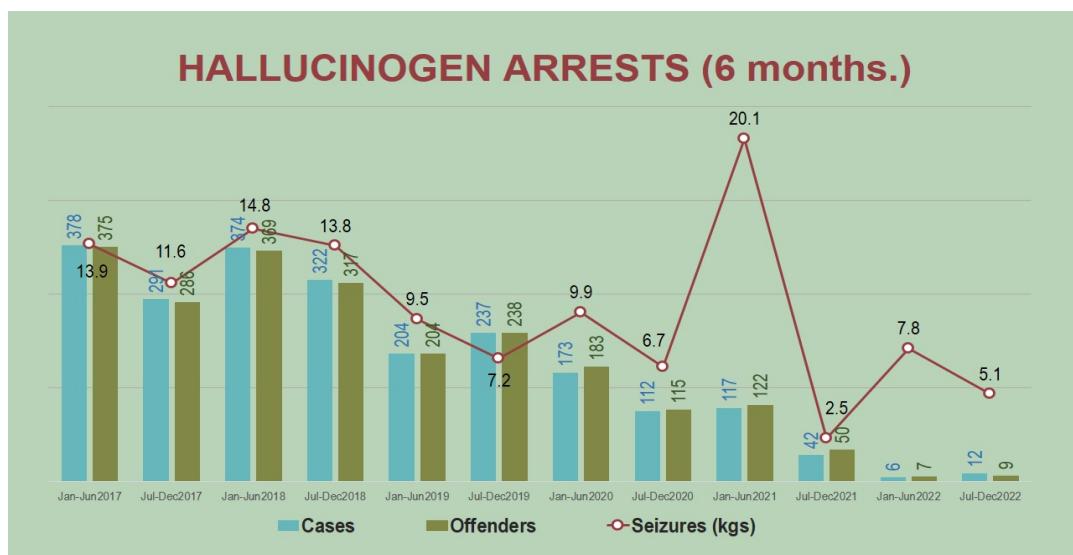


Figure 53: Hallucinogens arrested periodically

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Inhalants were the most Hallucinogens seized among the ASEAN Member States, accounting for 70% of all Hallucinogens seized by weight during 2017-2022. It varied from 6% to 96% of all Hallucinogens seized, with an average of 14 kilograms annually. In 2022, the Inhalants seizure was less than one kilogram. Magic Mushroom was the most frequent hallucinogen seized among the ASEAN Member States. During 2017-2022, Magic Mushroom seized accounted for 18.7% of all Hallucinogens seized by weight. It varied from 1% to 60% of all Hallucinogens seized, with an average of 3.7 kilograms annually. In 2022, Magic Mushroom's seizure was less than one kilogram. LSD accounts for 8.7% of all Hallucinogens seized.

During 2017-2022, it varied from 1% to 91% of all Hallucinogens seized, with an average of 3.7 kilograms annually. In 2022, the LSD seizure was 11.8 kilograms. The rest of the Hallucinogens seized are DMT (N-N-Dimethyltryptamine) and others.



Figure 54: Hallucinogens seizures 2022

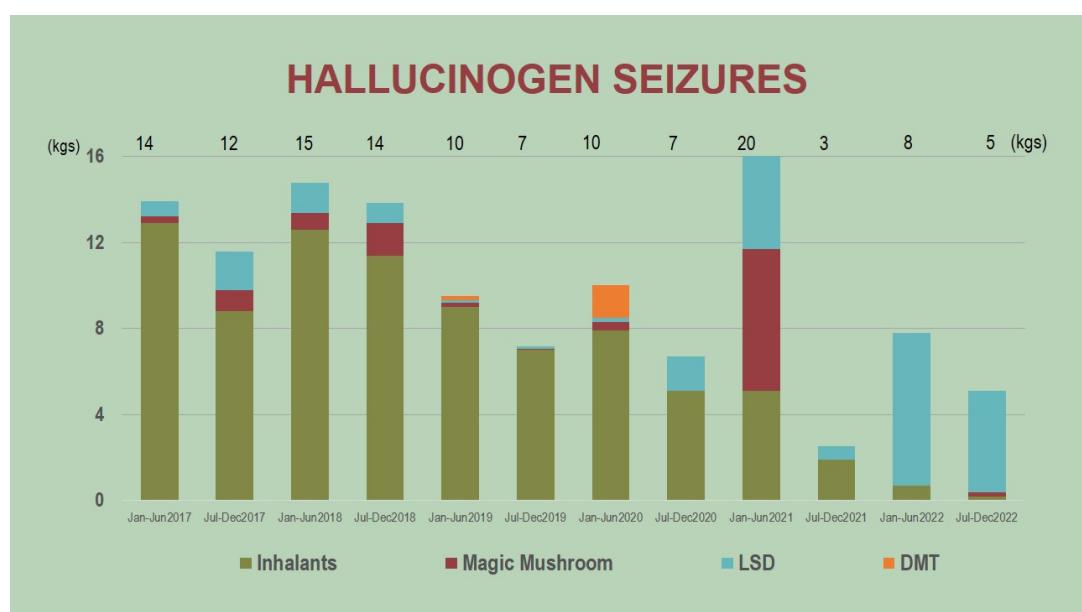


Figure 55: Hallucinogens seizures periodically

According to the Hallucinogens classification, Inhalants are the highest proportion by weight in almost every period during 2017-2020. Magic Mushroom was

also seized constantly during every period. LSD was also frequently seized. DMT was occasionally seized (2019-2021).

8. Others

Polydrug use in this report means using multiple drugs simultaneously to achieve a particular effect. Users often mix multiple drugs to experience new or more powerful moods. Polydrug abuse intensifies the effects of each drug and allows the user to experience different moods simultaneously. The euphoric effects are unique and more extreme, but so are the adverse side effects. All drugs have the potential for adverse side effects – even prescriptions and over-the-counter medications. However, when two or more drugs are used together, painful and harmful interactions can occur in the body. The effects vary by the drug combination. The pattern of polydrugs varies. In 2022, the two drugs combinations were Heroin-Methamphetamine (crystalline), Cannabis-Methamphetamine (crystalline), Ecstasy-

Methamphetamine (crystalline), Cocaine-Methamphetamine (crystalline), Cannabis-Methamphetamine (tablets), Benzodiazepines-Kratom, and Inhalants-Methamphetamine (crystalline). While the three combinations are Heroin-Cannabis-Methamphetamine (crystalline), Inhalants-Cannabis-Methamphetamine (crystalline), Ecstasy-Cannabis-Methamphetamine (crystalline), Cocaine-Cannabis-Methamphetamine (crystalline), and Benzodiazepines-Cannabis-Methamphetamine (crystalline)

Regarding seizures and precursors in 2022, Toluene was the precursor seized at less than one kilogram. Caffeine was 38.3 kilograms. The unclassified substances (Acetone, Sulfuric acid, Sodium Ethoxide etc.) were 11.6 tons.

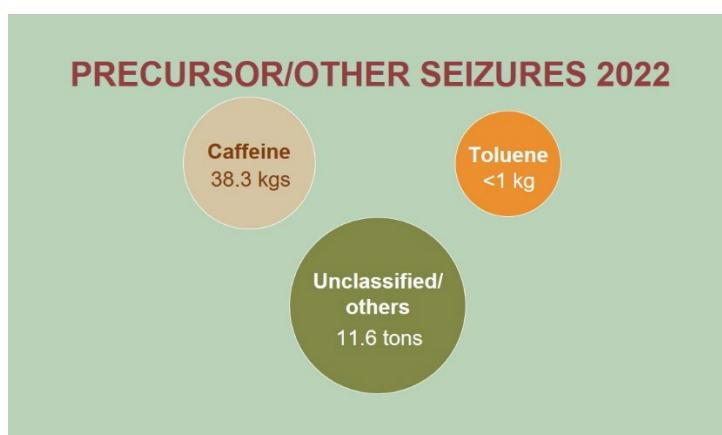
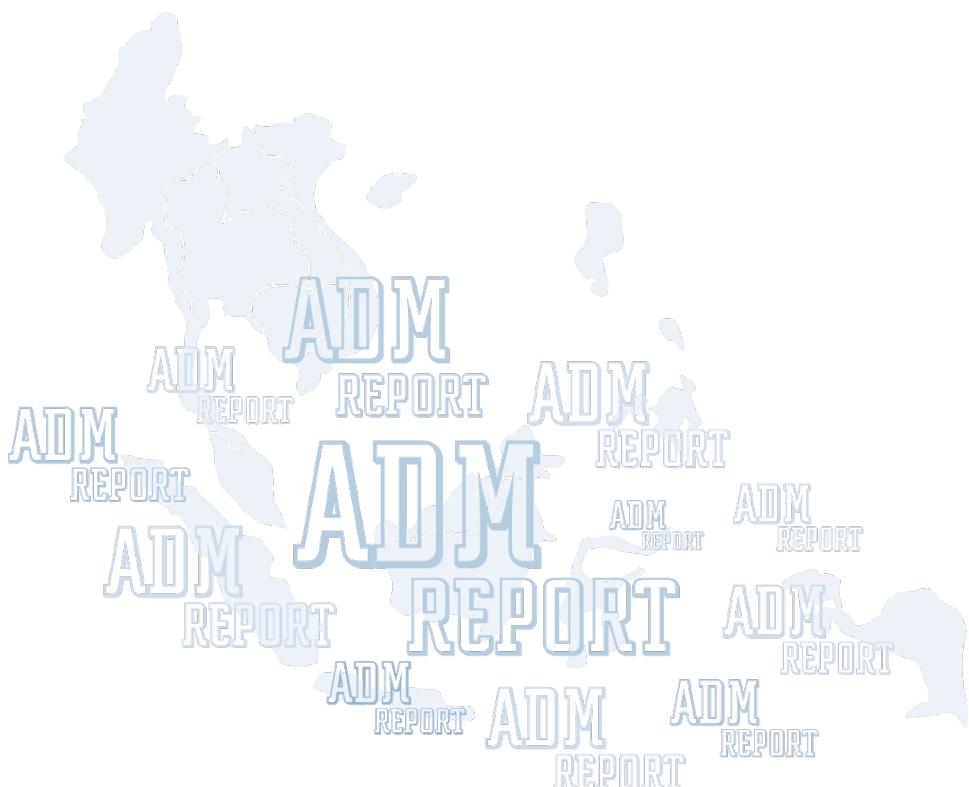


Figure 56: Precursor/Other seizures 2022

CHAPTER 3

ASEAN Country Report





Brunei Darussalam

Drug arrests

Narcotics Control Bureau as the leading law enforcement agency in combating illicit drug related crimes in Brunei Darussalam, had made 613 drug arrests in 2022 for various offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA), Chapter 27, where about 40.3% of the total arrests are new arrestees. The drug users arrested in 2022 constitute to 0.14% of the total population in

Brunei Darussalam. Out of the total arrests, 500 were males and 113 were females. Majority of the arrestees were locals and of Malay ethnicity.

Drug abusers of age group 30-39 years make up the largest group of arrestees as tabulated below:

Age group	No. of Person
14 years and below	1
15 – 19 years	13
20 – 29 years	147
30 – 39 years	209
40 - 49 years	186
50 – 59 years	50
60 years and above	7

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022

The following are the different types of drug offences committed under the Misuse of Drugs Act (MDA), Chapter 27:

Misuse of Drug Act (MDA) Chapter 27		Offence	No. of arrestees
Section 3A	Possession of controlled drug for the purpose of trafficking		69
Section 5	Import and export of controlled drug		11
Section 6(a)	Possession of controlled drugs		125
Section 6(b)	Consumption of controlled drugs		573
Section 7	Possession of pipes and utensils		209

Note: One arrestee may be arrested for multiple offences under the Misuse of Drugs Act, Chapter 27

In the year 2022, the NCB had conducted 249 land and sea operations nationwide. These include joint operations with other law enforcement agencies which aimed at further strengthen the inter-agency cooperation and efficiency in combating criminal related activities in Brunei Darussalam. Five (05) operations targeting local drug syndicates were conducted and a total of 131 arrests were made.

Drug seizures

Methylamphetamine remains the most commonly abused drugs in Brunei Darussalam, followed by Cannabis. Drug seizures made in 2022 are tabulated below:

Type of Drugs	Gross weight
Methylamphetamine (Syabu)	1,272.29 gram
Cannabis	1,195.08 gram 04 plants 7.13-gram edible cannabis 27 seeds
Mitragyna speciose (Ketum)	7,075 ml
Ketamine	61.56 gram
Ecstasy	0.29 gram

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From the five (05) operations targeting at local drug syndicates, a total of 860.28 gram of methylamphetamine; 879.49 gram of cannabis and 7.13 grams of edible cannabis were seized.

Border Checkpoints

In its effort to intercept the trafficking of drugs through the border, NCB work closely with other law enforcement agencies, forming an inter-agency approach, to monitor the security

across the border. NCB officers are stationed at the six border control posts in Brunei Darussalam namely at Brunei International Airport, Kuala Lurah Control Post, Ujong Jalan Control Post, Labu Control Post, Sungai Tujoh Control Post and Serasa Ferry Terminal.

In 2022, 16 were arrested at various border check points for a number of drug offences. Out of the total arrests, 05 were of Bruneians, 01 permanent resident and 10 foreigners.



Cambodia

A) Overview on Drug Situation:

- Drugs in the globe, regional and sub-regional still high concerns without any significant decreased. The Golden Triangle (GT) remain drugs source with high production, geographically stationed in the region, particularly for ATS and heroin. Despite the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak whereby the international cross border travelling is strictly applied, but the drug syndicates not only stop but also seeking other complexity creative concealment with advance techniques to support their business.
- There are some remarkable of significant cases of illicit narcotics smuggling of along Cambodia with Lao, Thailand, and Viet Nam borders become concerns; with note of smuggling routes had been shifted from air to sea and land routes.

- The interdiction shown a significant case of trafficking and processing case, which involved with foreigners as suspects with huge number of narcotics and processing devices had been seizure.
- Drug criminals not only engaged in drug trafficking but also seeking possibility in illicit drugs production locally.

B) Drug Control Mechanism:

- Since the Covid-19 outbreak, the Royal Government of Cambodia keeping attention by putting more collectively actions from concern agencies to overcome the drug related problem.
- Fostering the existing drug control mechanism, Law enforcement agencies from national down to the local levels respectively responsibilities.
- Closely cooperate with foreign partners, particularly with law

enforcement of neighboring countries to prevent the cross-border crimes including drugs.

- BLOs is one of the main existing among other mechanism in the region for information and operation exchanged of cross border crimes particularly for drugs related crimes.

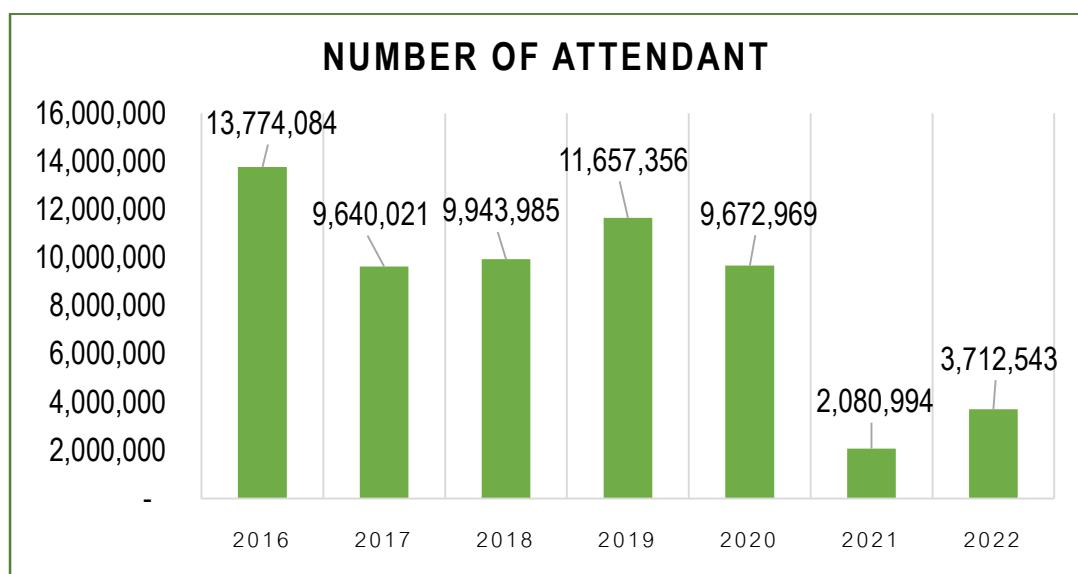
C) Combating Drugs' Achievement:

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak whereby the countries is closed under precaution measures, the drug syndicates had shifted their illicit drug business both modus operandi and concealment in smuggling drugs via air to land routes sharing border with Thailand, Lao PDR and Viet Nam; via air freights and sea routes. Cambodian authorities had focusing more on the land routes and successfully interdicted some significant drug cases which involving foreign nationalities in illicit drugs trafficking, possession, and processing activities. With

remarkable in combating drugs achievement in year 2022 as following:

- **Demand Reduction:**
- 1) Public awareness on drugs' harmful is one of priority work to be focused even we face the Covid-19 pandemic. The number of participants receiving drugs harmful messages is accounted for 15,314,581 personals.
 - 2) TV, Radio, Mobile phones and Social Medias become one of the favor channels for public drugs harmful messages to their clients.
 - 3) All public agencies and other concern agencies are actively responsible for their duties related to drugs problem.

The **3NOs and 1Report Slogan** for law enforcement is widely published and distributed.



(Graph 1: Number of attendants in receiving drug's messages activities)

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



Picture: June 26, 2022, Cambodian Authorities had burnt out of 3.90 Ton of Narcotic Substances

- **Treatment and Rehabilitation:**
 - 1) Fostering and enhancing treatment and rehabilitation services of the temporary rehabilitation centers.
 - 2) Inauguration of the **National Center of Voluntary and Community-based Treatment and Rehabilitation for Drug Addicts** in Preah Sihanouk Province and welcome for service of drug addicts. Even the campus facilities are not yet fully completed.
 - 3) We had expanded our service in public health facilities under community base treatment program.
 - 4) The number of drug addicts or PWUD is officially recorded in year of 2022 is 22,213 individuals

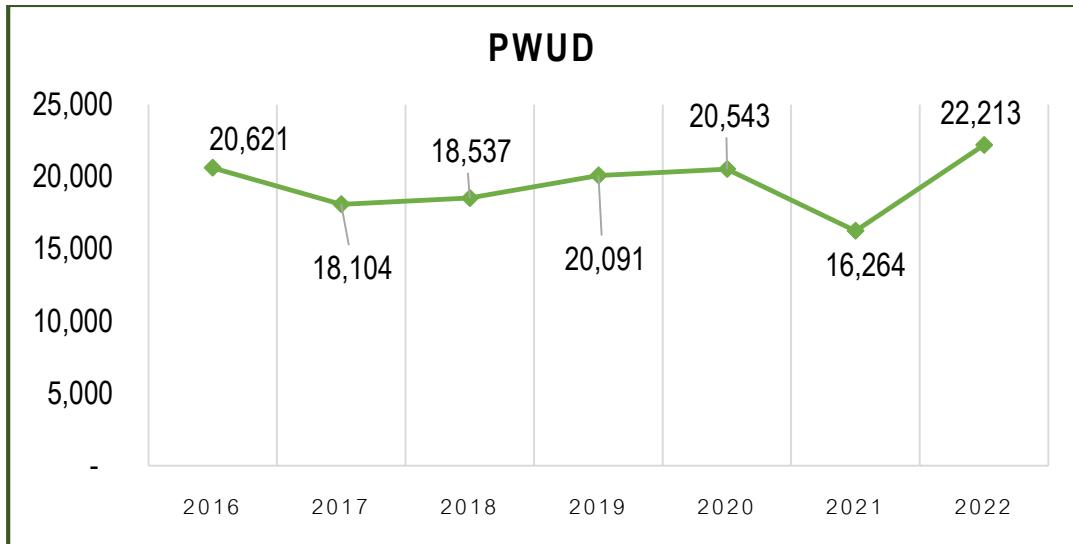
(5,949 is increase compared to same period of last year).

Demographic of drug addicts as follow:

- a) Age group: the main dominant is between 18-35 years old accounted as 76.3%
- b) ATS is the most drug of choices, especially Methamphetamine Crystal (ICE) accounted for 99.42%, follow by methamphetamine powder (tablets/WY)
- c) Workers or mobile workers is main group among the occupation of the drug addicts, follow by unclassified jobs
- d) Drug addicts enrolled for Community-based Treatment (CBTx) under the public health services accounted for 5,589 out of the total drug addict's population (new enrollment is 5,124 individuals)



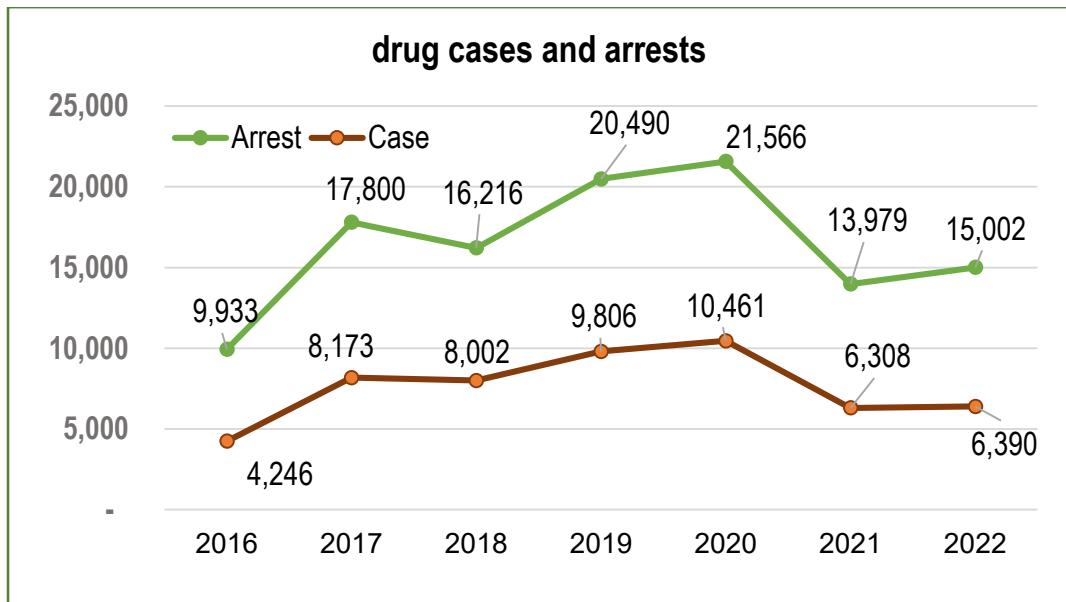
(Picture: Inauguration of the **National Center of Voluntary and Community-based Treatment and Rehabilitation for Drug Addicts** in Preah Sihanouk Province)



(Graph 2: Number of People who used drugs population)

- **Supply Reduction**
 - 1) The effectively enhancing of law enforcement capacity to encounter the drugs' related crimes by closely cooperated with foreign and neighboring countries. BLOs is one of the effective existing mechanisms in the region among GMS.
 - 2) Investigation and operation techniques including financial investigation is effectively functioned with more practical skills under clearly defined order and responsibilities.
 - 3) As results, in year of 2022, Cambodian Law Enforcement had successfully interdicted drug related crimes of 6,390 cases with 15,002 arrests (319 foreigners had been arrested with 10 nationalities).
 - Drug Consuming Crimes is 2,069 cases with 6,911 arrests
 - Narcotic Plantation Crimes is 33 cases with 05 arrests
 - Illicit Narcotic Processing Crimes is 09 cases with 34 arrests.
 4) Total Drug Seizures are:
 - Methamphetamine Tablets (WY) = 27.23 Kgs
 - Methamphetamine Crystal (ICE) = 1,076.75 Kgs
 - Ecstasy (MDMA) = 198.53 Kgs
 - Ketamine = 13,504.49 Kgs
 - Heroin = 70.98 Kgs
 - Cocaine = 0.51 Kgs
 - Cathinone = 12.05 Kgs
 - Nimetazepam = 29.54 Kgs
 - Dried Cannabis = 60.37 Kgs
 - Cannabis Herbs = 48,037 Plants
 - Chemical Substances = 504,577.00 Kgs
- This figure is included:
- Drug Trafficking Crimes is 3,125 cases with 6,158 arrests

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



(Graph 3: Number of drugs' cases and Arrestees)



Picture: Successful Interdiction of clandestine lab, July04-09, 2022

International Cooperation

- Real time cooperation with all Law Enforcement partners (sharing information) across the globe, regional and sub-regional
- Strengthening the BLOs Mechanism, particularly with neighboring among GMS countries.

- Internal LE capacity building via training and seminars
- Strengthening the Chemical Management and Monitoring Mechanism.



D) Way Forward

Base on the conclusion drawn for them evaluation and the results of the Drug Control in 2022 as stipulated in the National Plan of Drug Control and Phase 7th of Anti-Illicit Drug Campaign to ensure the consistency of outreach education to raise the public awareness on drug harm; Continuously enhance the function of Sub-committee on Treatment and Rehabilitation; Enhance capability building, commitment, morality and professionalism of the Law Enforcement officers abide to the 3 Nos and

1 Report Slogan of Samdach Krolahorm SAR KHENG; Continuously enhance the Precursor and Chemical controls; enhance and expand the international cooperation with neighboring countries in region and all development partners as well as legitimate documents development as guidelines, policies and laws related to drug control.. NACD with all competent entities had laid down number of activities, to get effective in combating drug related crimes with clearly defined practical works as follow:

Demand Reduction:

- Publication and distribution **the 3NOs and 1Report Slogan** of Interior Minister
- Enhance the demand reduction activities: public awareness on drug harm via Medias and others; distribution of drug related harmful documents; high-risk groups (mobile workers, drivers, and disordered accommodation).
- Encourage the Printing on Packaging of Drug harmful message on Consumer Products and others. Increasing number of distributions on Drug harmful messages of mobile phone and media services.
- Drug harmful document designed and guideline for public entities' agenda **Training for Trainees** both civilian and arm forces for their respective distribution.

Supply Reduction:

- Enhance Law Enforcement Cooperation with concern parties and neighboring countries in the globe, region, and sub region in preventing drug smuggling.
- Expand Investigation Procedures and interdiction forces for drug related crimes, chemical diversion, and financial investigation.
- Monitor and Evaluation to the Management and Mechanism for Effective BLOs Functioning and Capacity Building.

- Continuous to the inspection and risk assessment to Industries and Enterprises on Chemical Substances Management
- Continuous to Implement the National Campaign on Anti-illicit Drugs Phase 6; and Overloaded drug related documents in courts.

Treatment and Rehabilitation:

- Develop the Technical Guideline on Management, Monitoring and Functioning of the **National Center of Voluntary and Community-based Treatment and Rehabilitation for Drug Addicts** in Preah Sihanouk Province
- Advocate with Ministry of Interior for new Construction of Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Center in Porsat Province.
- Encouragement on Community-based Treatment and Services. Capacity Building and Training on Treatment and Rehabilitation Services.
- Enhance the Data Collection and Updating on Drug Addicts Population

Drug Control Mechanism:

- Fostering the Effectiveness of Provincial Drug Control Committees
- Continuous to Promulgate the National Policy on DRUG TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION FOR DRUG ADDICTS.
- Fostering the Procedure on Drafting the Drug Control Law Amendment

and National Strategic Policy on Establishment of Drug Free Villages.

- Practice the Safety Precaution Measures and Social Distancing in the Temporary Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers during the Covid-19 outbreak
- Randomly on-site monitoring and inspection of the industrial premises on related chemical management.

International Cooperation:

- Real time cooperation with all LE partners (sharing information) across the globe, regional and sub-regional
- Strengthening the BLOs Mechanism, particularly with neighboring among GMS countries.
- Internal LE capacity building
- Strengthening the Chemical Management and Monitoring Mechanism
- Online forum for exchange information.



Ketamine packaging designed



Methamphetamine ICE



Heroin



MDMA



Indonesia

National Narcotics Board (BNN) Republic of Indonesia as the focal point in the effort to Prevent and Eradicate the Abuse and Illicit Traffic of Narcotics and Narcotics Precursors (P4GN) in Indonesia collaborate with relevant ministries and institutions by consistently carrying out four strategies including: soft power approach, hard power approach, smart power approach and cooperation.

SOFT POWER APPROACH

This strategy covers the areas of prevention, community empowerment, and rehabilitation. In the field of prevention, efforts to increase community resilience are pursued through Drug Free Village (*Desa Bersinar*) program in 588 villages throughout Indonesia. This program was followed by family resilience activities by conducting interventions in 1,040 families, involving 4,160 family members (fathers/mothers and children). Meanwhile, there were 347,124 anti-narcotics volunteers involved in P4GN activities.

To fortify youth from drugs abuse, prevention is carried out in the educational environment through developing the abilities of 34 Junior and High Schools so that they independently train their students' soft skills, in 2022 this resiliency program has touched 4,590 students. In social and community life, 1,730 youth from various communities are equipped with the ability to know themselves and influence their peers to refuse drugs abuse.

Not only that, to raise awareness, concern and enthusiasm in the efforts to prevent drugs abuse in various regions in Indonesia, a '*War on Drugs*' campaign was carried out through art performances, sports and P4GN dialogues both directly and virtually with total audience of 307,010 people. This effort was accompanied by the posting of information on 494 outdoor media points such as leaflets and brochures in 34 provinces which were able to inform P4GN to 14,820,000 targets of people, as well as the broadcast of P4GN information on

television and radio which was received by 8,721,441 people.

Social media was also used to disseminate P4GN information through various uploaded content that has been viewed by 19,195,803 viewers, with a total of 16,281,345 likes. Meanwhile drug counseling services have been able to serve 7,537 requests from the public with a total audience of 1,847,034 people, both face-to-face and virtual.

In the field of community empowerment, the NNB seeks to increase community responsiveness to the threat of drug abuse and illicit trafficking through the performance indicators from the number of districts/cities in the category of "drug threat response". In 2022, there were 21 districts/cities in the "very responsive" category, and 129 districts/cities "responsive" to drug threats. As an effort to maximize the community's role, BNN has appointed 32,363 P4GN activists, and carried out urine tests on 222,781 people throughout Indonesia.

In an effort to empower the community, BNN has also succeeded in reducing narcotics-prone areas by 689 (from 8,691 in 2021 to 8,002 in 2022) through alternative empowerment programs and synergy between prevention, rehabilitation and eradication programs. As one of the efforts to overcome this, 1,089 people that live in narcotics-prone areas have also been provided life skills.

The Grand Design Alternative Development (GDAD) program continues to be implemented in Aceh Besar, Bireuen and Gayo Lues from planting to harvesting corn

and coffee. One of the concrete results is that the people in Bireuen have succeeded in harvesting hybrid corn on an area of 5 hectares, and the people in Gayo Lues have increased their coffee planting area by 510 hectares as a result of synergy with the district governments and in 2022 they have managed to harvest 30.5 hectares of coffee. tons. Meanwhile, the GDAD program in the Kapuas Hulu and Kutai Kartanagara areas was carried out through life skills technical guidance.

In the area of rehabilitation, the number of narcotics addicts/abusers who have undergone rehabilitation services in 2022 is 31,868 people with a satisfaction index for outpatient services of 3.49 (good category) on a scale of 1-4. The level of satisfaction for inpatient services is 3.59 (very good category) on the same scale.

BNN is targeting an increase in efforts to recover drug addicts through two indicators. The first indicator is the rehabilitation capability index which describes the accessibility, availability, sustainability and quality of services. In 2022, the rehabilitation capability index reaches 3.31 (good category) on a scale of 1 – 4. Meanwhile, the second indicator is the percentage of increasing quality of life for narcotics users after undergoing rehabilitation. The quality improvement was measured through WHOQoL (WHO Quality of Life) in 4 domains, physical achievement with 73.69%, psychological achievement 74.15%, social achievement 71.70% and environmental achievement 74.43%. The achievement of these four domains exceeded the set target,

which was 58%. This means that rehabilitation efforts, both provided by BNN and its partners, can really improve the quality and life skills of clients so as to minimize the potential for recurrence.

One of the breakthroughs in the field of rehabilitation to address the gap in rehabilitation services in various regions was the establishment of IBM (Community-Based Intervention) located in the "Desa Bersinar". Until now, there are 488 operational IBM units. IBM empowers the potential of local communities to become agents of recovery, to provide outreach, assistance, and guidance for drug abusers so that their behavior does not continue to become addiction.

Another breakthrough in the field of rehabilitation is the development of Indonesian rehabilitation service standards to ensure service quality. By 2022, there are 142 rehabilitation institutions that have been encouraged and facilitated so that they can carry out rehabilitation services in accordance with SNI 8807:2019 on the Standards for Narcotics Rehabilitation Services.

HARD POWER APPROACH

In this strategy, BNN is making efforts to eradicate the narcotics syndicate network. Throughout 2022, BNN has disclosed 49 networks, with 26 national networks and 23 international networks.

Out of all these networks, Indonesia law enforcement has uncovered 39,487 narcotic cases along with 51,566 suspects. In addition, BNN also uncovered 2 cases of clandestine laboratory with 5 suspects. Of all

these narcotics cases, number of narcotics evidence has been seized, of which the three largest were: crystal methamphetamine weighing 8.56 tons, dried cannabis weighing 123.32 tons, and 1.6 million tablets of ecstasy. In addition, 152.8 tons of wet cannabis trees has been eradicated in 63.9 hectares of plantation area.

An effort to eradicate the narcotics syndicate networks are always followed up with the disclosure of Money Laundering Crimes with the aim of impoverishing dealers. Throughout 2022, BNN uncovered 17 cases of money laundering, with 20 people as suspects, and total assets of IDR 33.8 billion.

SMART POWER APPROACH

To support the efforts in fighting against narcotics abuse and illicit trafficking, a smart power approach is carried out through the use of information technology and research. In the aspect of using information technology, BNN is perfecting various services for the public to access in the BNN One Stop Service (BOSS).

Meanwhile, in the aspect of research, BNN measures the index of public trust in the performance of BNN, through an Analysis of Public Trust in the Implementation of the P4GN Program with a score of 88.12 which means very good. BNN also carried out another research to obtain the P4GN index. This report was prepared using basic data from the Drug Information System and public online survey, with a value of 59.3% or categorized as quite effective.

COOPERATION

Through the cooperation strategy, BNN cooperates with government agencies and community components at the national, regional, and international levels on P4GN. In 2022, 43 cooperation documents have been signed, with the details, 19 cooperation documents with government agencies, 3 documents with government-owned enterprise, 4 documents with educational institutions, and 17 documents with community components.

Meanwhile, in international cooperation, Indonesia through BNN has signed 22 MoU documents with 20 countries, and these MoUs are still ongoing today. Forms of cooperation activities at the international level were actualized through joint training with the Drugs Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB).

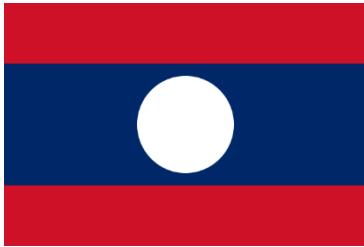
Not only that, Indonesia also actively participates in a number of strategic meetings such as: The 65th Commission On Narcotic Drugs (CND), The 43rd ASEAN Senior Official on Drug Matters, Far East Regional International Drugs Enforcement Conference (IDEC), The 16th ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime,

The 44th Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies Asia And The Pacific (HONLAP), The 7th ASEAN Seaport Interdiction Task Force (ASITF) meeting, and The 65th Reconvened Commission On Narcotic Drugs (CND).

In strengthening the 'War On Drugs', Indonesia also maintains intensive cooperative relations with Malaysia, United States, Iran, Argentina, Ecuador, Panama, Cuba, Colombia, Peru, Venezuela, Australia, Portugal, Finland, Italy, Spain, Thailand, Laos, Singapore and Viet Nam.

THE CHALLENGE OF NPS (NEW PSYCHOACTIVE SUBSTANCES)

Extraordinary efforts in the war against narcotics must continue to be developed considering the challenges faced are increasingly complex, one of which is the circulation of new types of narcotics or NPS. Throughout 2022, there were 360 samples of NPS had been tested by BNN Narcotics Laboratory Center. Until now, the number of NPS circulating in Indonesia as many as 91 types have been identified, of which 85 types have been regulated in Minister of Health Regulation number 36 of 2022 while 6 others have not been regulated.



Lao PDR

Introduction

The Lao PDR is a landlocked country in the center of the Greater Mekong Sub-region that shares long borders with China, Cambodia, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. Due to its geographic and topographic location and the rapidly emerging economies of some its neighbors, the Lao PDR become as a transit route for drug trafficking as well as precursor chemicals in the sub-region unavoidably. The drug trafficking through Lao PDR has been increasing with higher frequency and volume. The northwest border still being the main gateway of drug flow to Lao PDR, while the border in the Southwest part of the country has been increasingly used for drug outflow. Methamphetamine tablet (ATS) remains the main drugs of abuse, while the number of opium users remains almost stable.

In response, the government of the Lao PDR prioritized the fight against drug trafficking and drug use and instructed line sectors, local administrations, and the public

to focus on the successful implementation of national legislative strategies against drugs such as the Law on Narcotics, and the National Drug Control Master Plan. The Lao National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision (LCDC) has effectively strengthened its monitoring efforts during the past several years.

Legislation/National Drug Control Policy

The Government of the Lao PDR is constantly adjusting and improving legislative instruments and mechanisms to enable relevant authorities to respond effectively and immediately to the existing situation. The National Agenda for Drug and Precursor Chemical Control 2021 to 2023. This Drug Control Master Plan was officially approved by the Lao National Assembly on 10 August 2021. National Agenda for Drug and Precursor Chemical Control 2021-2023 composes of 6 programmes: (1) Program re-education and dissemination of legal information and adverse consequences due

to drug abuse; (2) Program of the formulation and improvement of drug law and regulation; (3) Program on data collection, law enforcement; (4) Enhance supervision for implementing the Drug Control program; (5) Streamlining the organization for Drug control at Centre and Local levels; (6) International cooperation program.

Measures taken on Drug Control

- 1) Alternative Development.
- 2) Law Enforcement.
- 3) Civic Awareness Campaign.
- 4) Drug Demand Reduction.
- 5) International cooperation.

Alternative Development

LCDC integrated Alternative Development programmes into national drug control plans and policies. Since 2020 because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the opium survey team from China could not come to Lao PDR, so we don't have data opium survey since that year. By the Year 2020, we received only reports from 9 provinces out of 11 provinces that have been ever opium poppy cultivation and sent reports to LCDC. In the year 2022 opium poppy cultivation in Laos was 1,283 hectares, and opium poppy eradication in Laos was 617 hectares. In 2023, LCDC in collaboration with UNODC, we join in conducting the opium poppy recultivation again after it had been stopped since 2015 due to the budget constraint. LCDC is implementing an Alternative Development

program in Houaphan Province, the Northern part of Lao PDR. Actually, our local authorities in the Northern part of the country have supported ex-opium poppy farmers in remote areas to gain better living conditions by introducing sustainable Alternative Development and lawful livelihoods.

Law Enforcement

Capacity enhancement of law enforcement agencies, increasing border surveillance, and the intelligence, ability to detect, investigate and prosecute illicit trafficking and related crimes are key priorities of the Government of the Lao PDR.

Police officials have cooperated with concerned sectors at different levels to carry out their functions with high responsibility. This could be seen from the crackdown of in 2022: 5,068 cases, arrests of 7,410 suspects of which 873 females and 143 foreigners, seizures of 143,991,200 Tablets of Methamphetamine (ATS), 175.77 Kg of Heroin, 251.10 Kg of raw Opium, 12,012.29 Kg of dry Cannabis, 2,209.87 Kg of Crystal Methamphetamine (Ice), 11,576.96 Kg of Powder for mixing, and producing drugs. In addition, vehicles, weapons and other equipment were also seized.

Preventive Education

LCDC mobilizes communities through effective civic awareness campaigns to prevent drug abuse, production, and trafficking. The authorities concerned have worked actively towards drug prevention by

means of drug education and anti-drug campaign to raise drug awareness in society, primarily among the youth population of negative impact and danger of drugs. LCDC and local authorities have strived for establishing families, villages, educational institutions, firms, and other organizations to be drug-free places.

Attention has been made to awareness raising and dissemination in different forms to create awareness amongst people in the society to acknowledge and understand the rule of law and understand the danger of drugs. A number of people of all ethnicities have been mobilized to participate in drug control and prevention. In 2022, the effects of drugs were advertised in colleges, schools, and villages along the border with a total of 5,170 participants (2,290 females).

To contribute to the implementation of the Government Policy on Three Builds Directive connected with the development of the village as a development unit, each locality has actively paid attention to the implementation of the drug free village development plan. The drug free families, villages, education institutes, and communities have contributed to the reduction of drug use to a certain extent.

Treatment, Rehabilitation and Vocational Training Centers

At present the concerned authorities of the Lao PDR provide 13 standard and non-standard treatment, rehabilitation and vocational training centers while three are

under construction. The authorities concerned plan to expand the availability of Community-Based Treatment (CBT) for ATS users including the access to counseling services to all citizens by enabling hospitals, and health facilities to offer these services.

We paid attention to drug addict treatment in drug treatment and habitation centers, hospitals, community-based treatment, and family levels in order to help drug victims to normalize their health. In addition to the physical and mental treatment, about 3,000 to 4,000 patients/times were also provided with basic vocational training. This is to provide them with job opportunities after reintegrating to their families.

International relation and cooperation

The Lao PDR pays high attention to 3 single United Nations Convention and UNGASS 2016 outcomes and international collaboration to combat the drug menace and tackle challenges. As drug prevention is considered as a first priority task the Lao government pays seriously attention to strengthening international cooperation and implementing bilateral agreements on narcotic drug cooperation, as well as implementation of community-based projects on drug demand reduction.

Lao PDR has implemented existing bilateral and multilateral agreements on drug control cooperation, exchange of information and intelligence and against drug trafficking with ASEAN countries,

friendly countries and with international organizations. Regional cooperation such as the joint operation “Safe Mekong” strengthened networks and collaboration at regional level between Lao PDR, China, Myanmar, Thailand, Cambodia and Viet Nam.

As we know that drugs are common problems in the region and in the world, international cooperation especially with the neighbor countries and ASEAN member's states to share lessons and data and information has been highlighted. These countries host regular meetings at national and local levels on rotational basis. We participated in the implementation of a drug control related crime project jointly with 5 bordering countries.

Conclusion

After the Lao government organized the implementation of The National Agenda for Drug and Precursor Chemical Control 2021 to 2023 to solve the drug problem

observed that the results have been fruitful since the implementation of the agenda, making the dealer and trafficker of drugs feared, and law enforcement officers can arrest and seize any kinds of drugs and precursor chemicals have been lost in large quantities.

The drug problem is not a person or single state can solve, it needs more cooperation to assist each other, and this can get a win-win for everyone. Law enforcement is a mechanism to use force for preventing and arresting drug trafficking in the criminal justice system. Therefore, this is the only way how to stop drug dealers. The Government of Lao PDR is undertaking considerable efforts to ensure the sustainability of opium elimination as well as to address the threats from other drugs by integrating Alternative Development program nationwide and supporting the development of alternative sustainable livelihoods for former and opium poppy-growing farmers, drug addicts' treatment, but also for other vulnerable communities.



Malaysia

Malaysia remains steadfast in protecting its nation particularly the youth and vulnerable communities from illicit drug trafficking and drug abuse. A comprehensive, integrated and a well - balanced approach is carried out to curb the menace of drug abuse with various involvement of government agencies, sectoral bodies and non-governmental organizations.

PREVALENCE OF DRUG ABUSE

The National Drug and Substance Abuse Data Collection Taskforce reported that in 2022, a total of 137,176 individuals have been identified as substance abusers and drug addicts in Malaysia. The collected data are divided into four categories as follows:

- i. Data of arrest under Section 15 (1) of the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 carried out by the Royal Malaysia of Police;
- ii. Data of clients receiving treatment and rehabilitation at the National Anti-drugs Agency under the Drug Dependents (Treatment and Rehabilitation) Act 1983;

- iii. Data of patients receiving treatment for addiction at Ministry of Health facilities; and
- iv. Data of patients receiving treatment and rehabilitation in Private Drug Rehabilitation Centres.

Compared to 2021, there was a significant increase in substance abusers and drug addicts who were identified in the country by 11.4 percent. In 2022, there was an increase drug addict detection operation carried out by NADA Enforcement Division and Narcotic Crime Investigation Department, Royal Malaysia Police. This is due the pandemic COVID-19 has been declared as endemic. Thus, enforcement activities were aggressively carried out. On top of that, there was an increase number of people who use drug also have sought voluntary treatment in the drug rehabilitation centres. From this statistic, the prevalence of substance abusers and drug addicts in 2022 was 420 out of 100,000 population with a ratio of one person for every 238 per population.

The task force also reported that Youth between the age of 19 to 39 years old were recorded as the highest group of people who used drugs in 2022, with 86,567 individuals or 63.1 percent. It showed an increase of 6.7 percent as compared to 2021. It was followed by the adult category (40 years and above) as the second largest by 48,936 individuals or 35.7 percent. Meanwhile, the adolescent category (13-18 years old) was the third with 1,671 individuals or 1.2 percent.

In 2022, there were 93,610 individuals (68.2 percent) have used Amphetamine-Type Stimulants (ATS). Then followed by 37,742 individuals (27.5 percent) have used opiates. In the ATS category, Methamphetamine (Crystalline) was the highest abuse with 75.4 percent, followed by Methamphetamine (tablets) and Amphetamine at 16.7 percent and 7.9 percent respectively.

In terms of ethnicity, Malays dominated with 79.2 percent, followed by Chinese with 7.0 percent, Indians at 6.0 percent, Sabah Indigenous at 4.8 percent, Sarawak Indigenous at 2.3 percent, and other ethnicities at 0.7 percent.

According to Academic Background, the data showed that 25.8 percent were school dropouts. 8.5 percent of substance abusers and drug addicts have completed Primary School, followed by 61.8 percent have completed Secondary School and 3.9 percent went to Tertiary Qualifications.

This data also showed a significant increase in poly-drug users in 2022 as compared to 2021 by 7.2 percent. The non-poly-drug users were also increased by 11.6

percent. Of the total of 6,990 poly-drug abusers, 52.3 percent have used two types of drugs, while 47.7 percent have used more than three types of drugs.

DRUG SUPPLY REDUCTION

In Malaysia, the Narcotics Crime Investigations Department (NCID) of the RMP is the main agency for the enforcement of drug laws. The Narcotic Division of the Royal Malaysian Customs Department (RMCD) also plays a vital role in enforcing drug laws. In addition to that, the Pharmacy Enforcement Division (PED) of the Ministry of Health enforces the Poisons Act 1952 and its regulations and the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 and its regulations which controls the sale, import and export of dangerous drugs (narcotics), poisons (including psychotropic substances), precursors and essential chemicals.

In addition to that, Malaysia Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) is the sole maritime law enforcement agency that enforces all federal laws in the Malaysia Economic Exclusive Zone (EEZ). It was established and started its operation in November 2005. One of the main purposes of the agency is to combat the distribution and smuggling of drugs in EEZ. To ensure that EEZ is a drug-free zone, maritime operations are planned in areas regarded as hot spots based on intelligence information as well as by conducting joint operations with other enforcement agencies. MMEA is also in the process of establishing a cooperative arrangement with coastguards

from neighbouring countries such as Singapore and Indonesia.

Arrests and Seizures

In 2022, as shown in Table 1, a total number of 153,259 individuals were arrested under the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952. It showed an increase by 24.9% compared to the previous year, 2021 (122,734

individuals). There were 6,657 arrested cases under Section 39B for trafficking, 3,389 cases under Section 39A (2) for major possession and 17,267 cases under Section 39A(1) for minor possession. There were 56,824 individuals were arrested under other Section [Sec.6 /Sec. 6B/ Sec.9/Sec.12(2)] the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952, and 69,122 cases under Section 15(1)(a) for self-administration.

Table 1: No. of Arrests Under Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 (DDA), 2019-2022

YEAR / SECTION	2019	2020	2021	2022
Sec. 39B – Trafficking	6,829	6,694	7,250	6,687
Sec. 39A(2) – Major Possession	3,986	3,427	3,336	3,389
Sec. 39A(1) - Minor Possession	16,044	13,441	14,664	17,267
Other sec. (under DDA 1952) [Sec.6 /Sec. 6B/ Sec.9/Sec.12(2)]	58,623	48,309	44,853	56,824
Sec.15(1)(a) – self-administration	80,386	65,724	52,631	69,122
TOTAL	165,868	137,595	122,743	153,259

Notes:

Source of information: Royal Malaysian Police (RMP), Royal Malaysian Customs (RMC) & Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency

Table 2 showed the property seized in Malaysia. The number of cases investigated an increase in 2022. However, the value of properties seized has decreased from RM 162,979,893.58 to RM 122,981,431.26 (-25 percent). Meanwhile, the value of properties forfeited has increased to 29 percent.

The success of forfeiting their property can contribute to national revenue as the wealth gained by drug traffickers causes income tax is not collected on them.

Investigation of property forfeiture and action under the prevention law as well as the Dangerous Drugs Act is a powerful action to cripple the network of capabilities of syndicates and individuals involved in drug smuggling and distribution activities.

The value of confiscation and forfeiture shows the perseverance of officers and members of the NCID division who work hard to ensure that their properties involved in drug trafficking activities are successfully forfeited.

Table 2: Value of Property Seized Under the Forfeiture of Property Law in 2019-2022

Year	Number of Cases Investigated	Value of Properties Seized (RM)	Value of Properties Forfeited (RM)
2019	5,570	99,450,227.50	5,112,069.20
2020	4,884	501,032,797.54	11,402,756.30
2021	4,949	162,979,893.58	19,152,234.06
2022	5,282	122,981,431.26	24,615,556.36

Notes: Source of information: Royal Malaysian Police (RMP)

Drug Trafficking Threats

Drug trafficking and abuse are serious issues confronting Malaysia. The illicit drug use has been well thought-out as major social intimidation in Malaysia and has been declared as a threat to national security i.e. Malaysia's number ONE enemy. Malaysia's geographical location has long made it a transit country for traffickers of illegal narcotics.

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on drug trafficking and smuggling in Malaysia, as well as other countries around the world. The disruption of global trade and travel caused by the pandemic has made it more difficult for traffickers to move drugs across borders. As a result, there has been a decrease in the amount of drug seized by law enforcement agencies in Malaysia.

However, it is expected that the post-pandemic recovery of the global economy and trade will also lead to a resurgence in drug trafficking and smuggling in Malaysia.

This is because trafficker will likely take advantage of the increased movement of goods and people to smuggle drugs into the country. Additionally, the economic downturn caused by the pandemic may have led to an increase in demand for drugs as people turn to them as a way to cope with financial stress and other related issues. In addition, active enforcement actions have resulted in various successes in operations that have contributed to an increase in the number of cases in 2022.

Drug Trafficking Trends

New Psychoactive Substances (NPS)

New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) are substances that are misused to imitate effective drugs whose effects can be harmful to health. It gives the same or almost the same stimulation to drug addicts who take it. It is feared that this NPS will be the main alternative to prohibited activities because there are still NPS that have been detected

but have not yet been categorised in the Scheduled Drug Act.

In Malaysia, currently, 86 NPS have been gazetted under the Dangerous Drugs Act 1952 and the Poisons Act 1952. The listing of this NPS active ingredient under the DDA 1952 is important in the direction of more effective enforcement actions and subsequently taking legal action against those involved.

Drug Smuggling by Road

Until now, the problem of drug distribution and addiction has been one of the most serious threats to Malaysia's national security. The threat of cross-border crime between countries is difficult to control due to various constraints in terms of geographical factors, logistics, enforcement, and many more. In relation to that, Malaysia's land and sea borders are strengthened through the five-front approach, which involves the northern border of Kedah and Kelantan, the South, Sabah, and Sarawak, in an effort to combat cross-border crime.

NCID has successfully disabled a drug smuggling syndicate from crossing the border and entering Malaysia by road. This syndicate has used transporters to bring drugs into Malaysia. This drug syndicate uses two vehicles, where one is for surveillance while the other carries drugs and will convoy together. The vehicle guarding this route will be in front to go through the roadblock, and when there is no inspection during the roadblock, the driver of

this first vehicle will connect with the driver of the second vehicle to go through the roadblock.

Local Drug Couriers Arrested Overseas

Many awareness campaigns have been organised to raise citizens awareness of the dangers of being involved in drug trafficking activities. However, it is not uncommon to hear of Malaysians being arrested abroad for trying to smuggle drugs. In many cases, the pursuit of an easy life causes Malaysians to voluntarily become drug mules for international syndicates, and most of them are aware of what they carry. Social media has also been exploited by IDTS to recruit drug mules, some from various nations. Besides easy money, they are easily tempted by the promise of marriage or the opportunity to travel, which has been reported by arrested Malaysian drug couriers.

From 2010 until 2022, a total of 864 Malaysian citizens were detained in foreign countries for their involvement in the drug trade. In 2022, a total of 18 Malaysian citizens were arrested abroad with the drug in their custody. The most popular drugs seized are Heroin, Methamphetamine, Cocaine and Cannabis. In the pursuit of an easy life, many Malaysians voluntarily become drug mules for international syndicates. The drug mules carry drugs by swallowing, strapping the drugs to their bodies, concealing them in luggage, and many other methods.

Malaysia as Transit Country

Drug smuggling and trafficking syndicates are always trying to smuggle drugs in and out of the country in various ways. This trend has been the concern of NCID for a long time, and enforcement actions are often carried out to combat smuggling activities. NCID also often collaborates with courier service companies to share information related to drug smuggling.

Having porous borders, Malaysia remains vulnerable to the drug threat due to its close proximity to the drug-producing region of the Golden Triangle. As a result, the IDTS has taken this opportunity to exploit Malaysia as a transshipment point to transport drugs to other countries. Trafficking methods by air routes using cargo and parcels as well as sea routes using cargo and vessels.

Enforcement at airports (domestic and international) is enhanced in an effort to combat drug smuggling by strengthening checks and controls at entry and exit gates and cargo gates. Security checks also need to be emphasised to identify drug mules so they don't escape. As a result of the investigation, there have been many cases of smuggling from domestic airports (Peninsula to Sabah and Sarawak) as well as through cargo or packages sent abroad. Accordingly, periodic inspections should be scheduled for the shipment of suspicious packages abroad.

Local Syndicates

The activity of selling liquids containing drugs in WhatsApp groups NCID constantly monitors the latest trends used by drug syndicates in an effort to obscure the authority's knowledge of their activities. As a result of the social media team's monitoring of the activities of selling liquids containing drugs on e-commerce websites, they have found that the syndicate has changed direction by not showing it openly but establishing a WhatsApp group with only trusted members. The result of the intelligence and spying that was done has resulted in success and has successfully busted an online distribution and processing activity of cannabis-type liquid drugs (Hemp Oil) by a local syndicate. This syndicate has manipulated the content of the original vape liquid known as e-liquid or e-juice, which consists of water, propanol glycol, vegetable oil, flavourings, sweeteners, and nicotine, by mixing prohibited substances such as CBD (cannabidiol), THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), and ketamine.

In Malaysia, abuse through social media and communication services can be dealt with appropriately based on the law as provided under the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998. This concern needs to be addressed considering that the use of the internet by Malaysians covers various ages and is feared to attract teenagers to try something new, causing them to get stuck in drug activities.

Conclusion

Malaysia strongly believes in improving international cooperation, notably in the exchange of information and intelligence, as well as accurately reporting any illegal drug trafficking incidents. Malaysia actively supports efforts and steps to combat illicit drug trafficking at the national, regional, and international levels.

Examining the harm and impacts of drugs on society. To stop the illegal drug trade, it is necessary for international collaboration between activities to be coordinated and integrated. Information about the countries of origin, the countries of transit, and the countries of destination. Capacity building, cooperation, and sharing are all good examples.



Myanmar

Background History

As the menace of narcotic drugs poses the threat to the entire human race, illicit drug production, demand and trafficking have devastating effects on the peaceful and tranquil existence of people, as well as on infrastructures such as health, the economy, and politics.

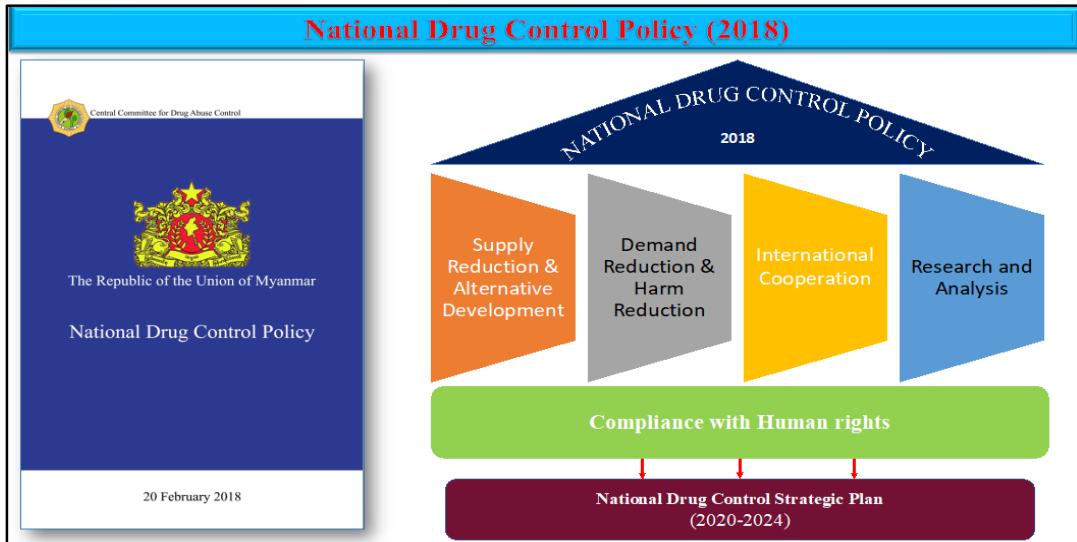
The government take measures to prevent the drug production as part of its effort to address the drug problem. This includes interdicting drug trafficking and preventing drug use within the community, as well as providing treatment for drug addiction and related health issues. Additionally, the government must address challenges such as rehabilitation and vocational training to ensure recovering drug users can successfully reintegrate into society.

International policies have been put in place to address the global drug problem,

and successive State governments have prioritized drug elimination activities as a national duty by adopting strategic plans and operational plans to address this issue.

In 2018, a national drug control policy was announced in Myanmar with the aim of promoting a safe and healthy community by minimizing drug-related health, social and economic harms. To implement this policy, strategic plans have been drawn up, and relevant regional / state governments are tasked with developing and implementing action plans to address drug problems. The drug control policy in Myanmar prioritizes five areas, namely:

- Supply Reduction and Alternative Development
- Demand and Harm Reduction
- International Cooperation
- Research and Analysis (a strong evidence base)
- Compliance with Human rights



Supply Reduction

With the support of UNODC, the Survey Report on the illicit crop cultivation in Myanmar shows that opium production, which was at 1760 metric tons in 1996, declined to 320 metric ton by 2006. However, it bounced back up to 870 metric ton in 2013. Similarly, it was at 670 metric tons in 2014, but once again went down to 647 metric ton by 2015. In 2017, 550 metric tons was produced, and this decreased to 520 metric tons in 2018, 508 metric tons in 2019, and 405 metric tons in 2020, thereby indicating a significant decline in opium production yearly. Although the opium

production for 2021 was at 423 metric tons, it increased to 795 metric tons in 2022.

Shan state continues to be the main production area for opium cultivation in Myanmar. According to a survey, there was a decrease of 11% in opium cultivation, from 37,300 hectares in 2018 to 33,100 hectares in 2019. Similarly, the cultivation area decreased to 29500 hectares in 2020 compared to the previous year. However, in 2021, the cultivation area slightly increased by 2% to 30,200 hectares. In 2022, opium was cultivated in an area of 40100 hectares, representing a substantial increase of 33%. The increased was recorded against the backdrop of the period of COVID-19 third wave and instability of the country situation.

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022

	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
Cultivated (Hectares)	57800	57600	55500	-	41000	37300	33100	29500	30200	40100	-
Production (Mt)	870	670	647	-	550	520	508	405	423	790	-
Destroyed (Hectares)	12258	15188	13274	7562	3536.96	2578.52	2459.91	2026.58	4632.97	1403.27	1894.84

The supervisory Committee for Controlled Precursor Chemical was formed in 1998, and the reform process of the committee, was finalized on 19-9-2016 which is chaired by the Deputy Chief No (2) of Myanmar Police Force and consists of 12

members from respective ministries. The Rules relating to the Supervision of Controlled Precursor Chemicals was issued on 1st July 2004, and currently there were 39 substances under the national controlled list.

Controlled Precursor Chemicals (39).

Table 1 (1988 UN Convention)

1. Acetic anhydride
2. N-acetylanthranilic acid
3. Ephedrine
4. Ergometrine
5. Ergotamine
6. Isosafrole
7. Lysergic acid
8. 3,4 Methyleneoxyphenyl -2-propanone
9. Norephedrine
10. 1-phenyl-2-propanone
11. Piperonal
12. Potassium permanganate
13. Pseudoephedrine
14. Safrole
15. 1-Phenyl-2-Propanone
16. N-phenethylpiperidine(NPP)
17. 4 anilino-N-phenethylpiperidine(ANPP)
18. 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidate (PMK glycidate)
19. 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid (PMK glycidic acid)
20. alpha-phenylacetamide (APAA)
21. Phenylacetic acid

Table 2

1. Acetone
2. Anthranilic acid
3. Ethyl Ether
4. Hydrochloric acid
5. Methyl ethyl ketone (MEK)
6. Piperidine
7. Sulphuric acid
8. Toluene

Table 3

1. Ammonium Chloride
2. Ammonium Nitrate
3. Caffeine
4. LeadAcetate
5. Methylamine / Methylamine Hydrochloride
6. Sodium Acetate
7. Sodium Cyanide
8. Safrole Rich Oil
9. Tartaric Acid
10. Thionyl Chloride

The precursor chemicals are smuggled into Myanmar from neighboring countries across the borders in many ways

and the following table was the figures of uncovered and confiscated in Myanmar:

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022

Types of Precursor	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Caffeine (kg)	431.46	9932.26	19847.48	5885	20759.49	19226	11371.9	9355	9036.01
Ephedrine (kg)	32.10	111.94	534.204	0.0015	139.71	4.02	630	-	1
Pseudoephedrine (kg)	1951.14	1271.97	61.55	31	7.6	-	2.7	-	-
Pseudoephedrine (tablet)	2.685	-	11.92	39.01	4.5	-	15	-	30.5
Acetic anhydride (lt)	1297.53	260.00	16.00	1318.34	40	4140.11	12240	-	-
Hydrochloric acid (lt)	1702.59	7950.00	3494.8	106720	181657	106411.46	53827	20	9200
Sulphuric acid (lt)	280.00	2197.65	28476.8	11034.9	62135	77883.08	15104.8	18340	22550
Ethyl Ether (lt)	41995.528	-	250	-	203794.25	26674	6180	-	360

In order to prevent the diversion of precursor chemicals into the illicit activities, the Pre-Export Notification System is being utilized to ensure the exchange of information regarding the export and import of controlled precursor chemicals. In 2022, a total of 103 PEN notices were received, of which 22 objections were issued due to incomplete information, and 81 approvals were issued for import/ export.

In accordance with the Myanmar-Thailand Alternative Development program, and with a financial support of 350 million Baht from Mae Fah Luang Foundation, Crop Substitution Programs were implemented in the Tachileik and Mai Sat townships of Eastern Shan State during 2012 to 2017. The programs included health care services, Agricultural and livestock breeding programs, socio-economic initiatives for forest ranching, income enhancement services, socio-eco analyses, study visits to

AD project areas, and capacity building training. In February 2022, a bilateral MoU was signed by the two agencies to implement a sustainable alternative development program along Myanmar-Thailand border. The Committee of Alternative Development Management from the Ministry of Border Affairs and the Mae Fah Luang Foundation from Thailand continue to conduct the programme.

Following its implementation, 60 villages from Loi Lin and Ho Poin townships of Southern Shan State embarked on Alternative Development Program with the financial support of \$ 5.9 million from Germany and Finland for a period of three years from 2016 to 2018. In order to export coffee from the Alternative Development Programme area to the Foreign country under the close cooperation of UNODC, the signing ceremony of MoU between the

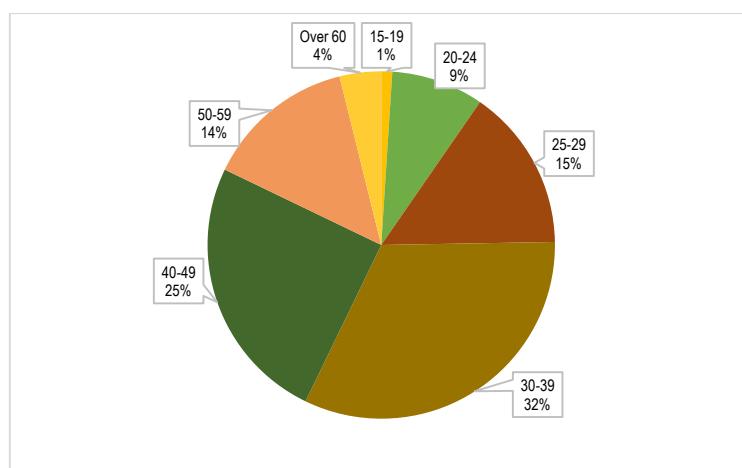
farmers of Illicit Crop substitution from Myanmar and Malongo coffee company was conducted in Kempinski Hotel, on 7 December 2017, and the MoU for five years programme between Green Gold coffee farmers and Malango company has been signed at its ceremony. Since its establishment, 9 tons were exported in 2018, followed by 75 tons in 2019 and 100 tons in 2020 with the assistance of Malongo Company. Furthermore, in 2020, 0.6 tons of coffee were exported in 2020, followed by 160.8 tons in 2021 and 180.9 tons thereafter, as a new market opened up in Japan.

Demand Reduction

As Drug Use Disorder is considered a chronic relapsing mental disease, 29 Major Drug Treatment Centers and 56 Minor Drug Treatment Centers are providing patient-centered biopsychosocial treatment for people who use drugs. Moreover, Methadone Maintenance Therapy has been established since 2006 and scaled up to 86 Methadone dispensing clinics in 2022. The total number of patients who received methadone treatment was 26196 in 2022. Drug treatment Centers provided drug treatment interventions for 9026 new patients in 2022.

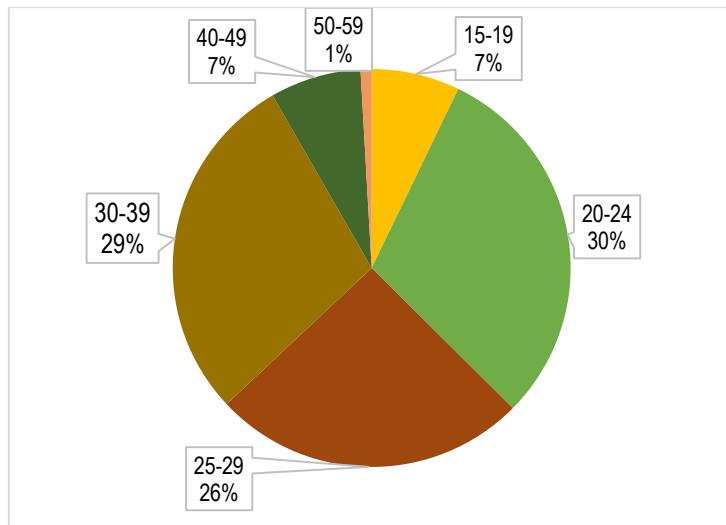
Drug Treatment Services

		Male	Female	Total
New patients	Out patients	8506	167	8673
	In patients	340	13	353
Old patients	Out patients	17910	261	18171
	In patients	204	1	205
Total		26960	442	27402



Age group of patient who access the drug treatment

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022

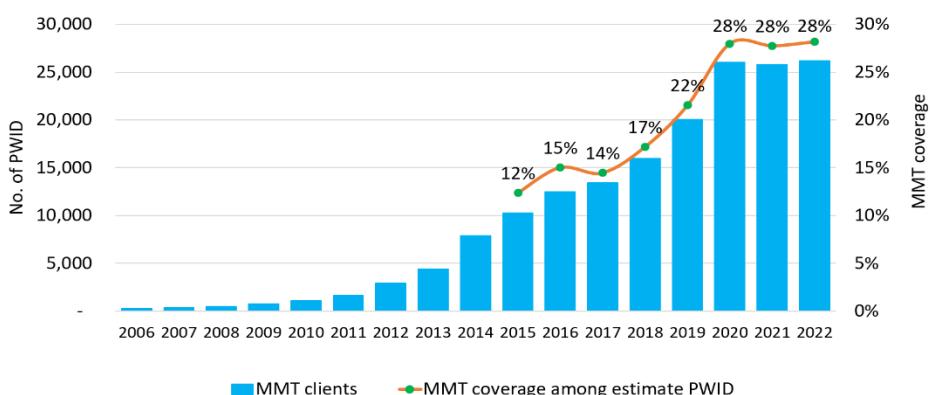


Age group of new patients who used psychoactive substances in 2022

Rehabilitation

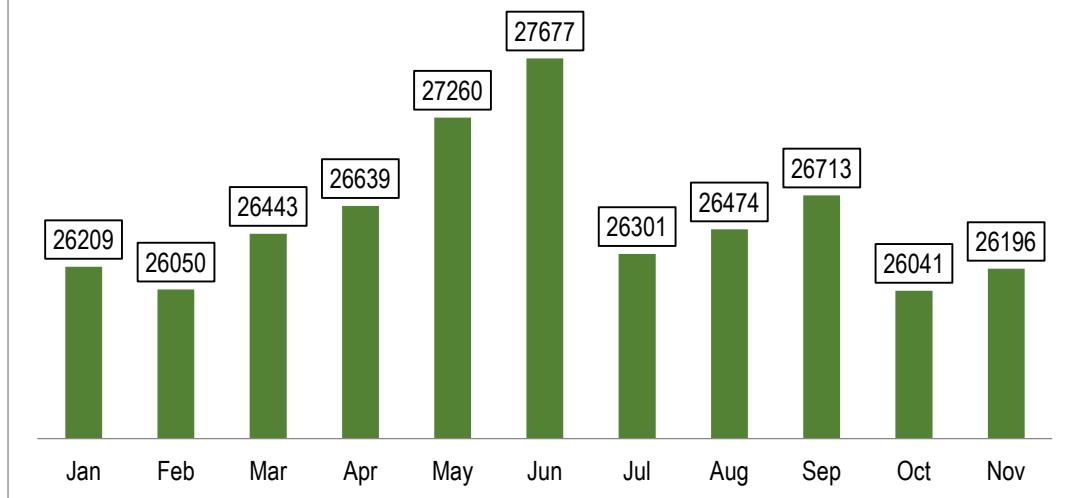
Under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, there are 14 rehabilitation centers across the country that help drug users who have undergone treatment to be reintegrate back into society. Campaigns are

being launched to encourage drug users to receive treatment at drug treatment centers. While receiving treatment, they and their dependents can receive necessary support, undergo physical and mental rehabilitation, participate in vocational training programs, and take part in reintegration programs.



Methadone maintenance treatment clients (2016-2022)

Total Number of methadone patients in 2022



In cooperation with the Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement, the Rehabilitation Department was established on January 30th, 2018, in order to effectively carry out its treatment services.

Awareness Campaign

The Ministry of Education, as the Committee for Education Students and Youths under the CCDAC, is carrying out an education campaign to increase awareness among students and youths about the risk of drug abuse and psychoactive substances. The understanding of drug abuse and psychoactive substances is also integrated as a separate lesson in the life skills curriculum for Basic Education students, as well as for out-of-school children in Non-Formal Primary Education and Non-Formal Middle Education programs.

A total of 1217 educational talks were conducted, reaching 36011 individuals. In addition, 27 talks were conducted in 2022, reaching 13857 individuals, and a total of 2,313,735 students participated in these talks.

Furthermore, Public Awareness Education Committee under the guidelines of CCDAC is also carrying out its awareness campaign with 5 sectors of information and Public Relations Department, Myanmar Radio and Television, News and Periodicals Enterprise, Printing and Publishing Department and Public Relations and psychological Welfare Directorate Office, especially bonding partnership with youth awareness sector and MANA in carrying out its drug awareness campaign.

To raise awareness of the dangers of drug use, the Public Relations and Psychological Welfare Directorate Office is

carrying out monthly activities such as broadcasting short programs, and songs at Military Television centers, Myawaddy and Yadanar Bone Information centers. In 2022, they provided several activities, which included 185 news items, 696 TV spots, 9 cartoons, 17 programmes, 13 articles, 5 poems 3 editorial and 11 interviews.

The Ministry of Information is responsible for raising public awareness about the dangers of narcotic drugs and the importance of avoiding their abuse. Educational programs addressing this menace are disseminated nationwide through various forms of media including radio, television, newspapers, journals, articles, cartoons, and posters. Myanmar Anti-Narcotic Association (MANA) members travel throughout the country to hold preventive education talks and distribute monthly educational booklets.

In 2022, the Ministry of Information conducted 310 poster competitions, 83 photography competitions, 64 awareness talks, and 149 Talk shows (Website TV). Additionally, 542 news articles, 4 headline

news piece, 490 photos, 1 cartoon, 11 article, and 118 slogans were published in newspapers such as New Light of Myanmar, Kyay Mone, and the Global New Light of Myanmar.

Enacting Laws

In order to align with the UN Conventions, international standards and norms, as well as policies, and to create greater opportunities for treatment services, the 1993 Illicit Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law was officially amended and announced on February 14th, 2018.

To fully implement the amended drug law, the draft of the 1995 Rules Relating to Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Rule is currently being processed for introduction.

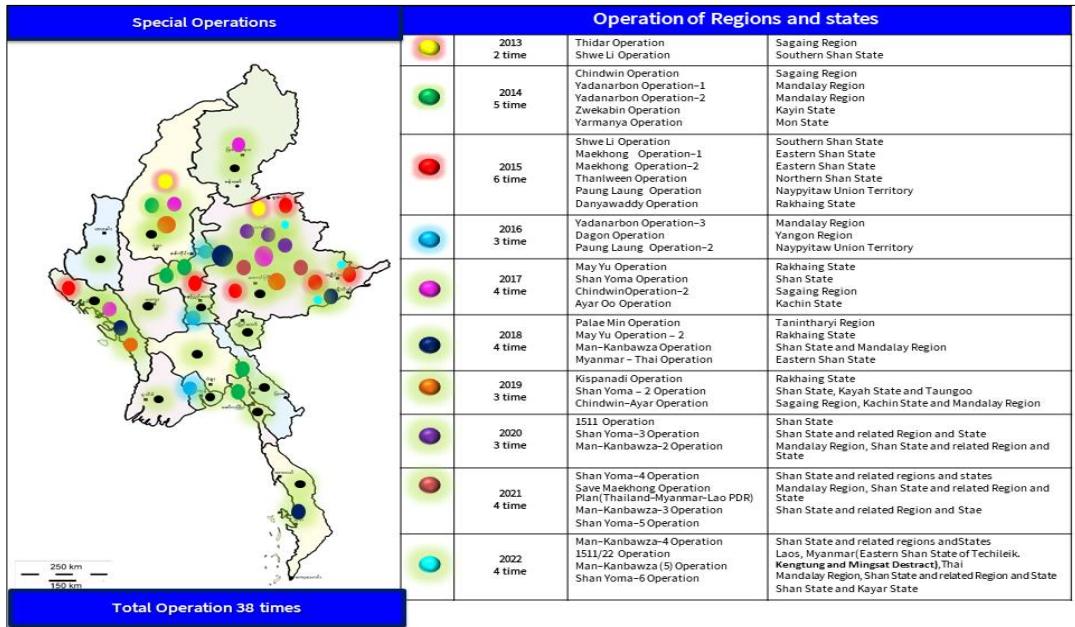
A five-year new National Strategic Plan for the period 2020-2024 has been adopted, and a two-year action plan for the states and regions is in progress to implement the new national drug policy that was approved on 20th February, 2018.



Enforcement Measures

The Tatmadaw (Myanmar Military), Myanmar Police Force and the Customs Department play the main roles in combating narcotic drugs in Myanmar. The Drug

Enforcement Division is being formed under Myanmar Police Force, and its Divisions and units are deployed throughout the country. From 2013 to 2022, the Drug Enforcement Division conducted 38 operations to interdict the drug smuggling activities.



The following Chart illustrates the seizures of narcotic drugs in Myanmar.

Types of drugs	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Opium (Kg)	1828.40	888.84	945.7096	1256.169	2829.039	1552.692	3131.528	2632.009	1209.77
Heroin (Kg)	435.46	186.04	769.2589	570.622	1099.123	690.24	1853.36	2526.109	1345.49
ATS Pill (Millions)	12.65	49.95	98.353	72.81	106.702	108.719	382.4	198.18	169.07
ICE (Kg)	47.11	2261.69	2464.0834	1107.491	2827.537	9426.193	17363.88	13851.77	23401.92
Speciosa	605.31	687.35	1409.4324	651.127	1833.886	2542.599	2632.72	1058.48	766.48
Cannabis (Kg)	205.54	87.70	188.7805	198.826	142.381	364.819	797.597	503.715	929.43
Case	6696	6414	8800	9544	13037	13000	13960	6990	6759
Suspect	9425	9188	13591	14000	18681	18407	19994	10063	9600

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The follow Chart illustrates the number of heroin refineries and ATS tablet manufacturing machines seized between 2007 and 2022.

Types	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Heroin Refineries	5	5	3	1	-	1	3	3	-	3	-	6	8	3	1	2
Tablet Machines	5	1	3	-	2	6	3	2	3	2	2	2	15	27	1	7

International Cooperation

Myanmar is closely cooperating with countries within the Greater Mekong Sub Region and ASEAN Member States to combat narcotic drugs. In addition, joint efforts are being made with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in Yangon, the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) Thailand, the Australian Federal Police (AFP) and the National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC) of China and also set up Border Liaison Offices (BLOs) along the Myanmar-China, Laos, and Thailand borders. These centers primarily serve as information exchange hubs relevant to combat narcotic drugs.

Myanmar has also signed Bilateral Agreements with the United States of America Bangladesh, China, India, Korea, Laos PDR, The Philippines, Russia, Thailand, and Viet Nam, in order to jointly combat narcotic drugs. Furthermore, Myanmar is currently in the process of signing an MOU with Indonesia.

Cooperation on Capacity Building

In 2022, to strengthen the capacity building for drug law enforcement activities,

there were a total of four workshops /seminars attended by 21 officers, two trainings attended by 60 officers, four meetings attended by 21 officers, and two surveys conducted with 12 officers, all held in abroad. In addition, we held 15 online meetings with 76 officers, four workshops with 15 officers, one training with 5 officers, and one online event with 4 officers.

Conclusion

The problem of narcotic drugs is intrinsically linked to ethnic armed conflicts. Therefore, in order to obtain peace within the country by reducing armed conflicts, the Myanmar Government is striving to secure a nationwide ceasefire agreement. This will be achieved by holding Peace Conference with all concerned parties regarding the ceased fire agreement throughout the entire country.

Although Myanmar has made all-out efforts to combat narcotic drugs using its own resources as well as through cooperation with the international community, the country still faces constraints and challenges in these endeavors. However, we would like to reiterate that Myanmar is trying its best to overcome these constraints and challenges by adopting plans and programs that align with the country's reality.



The Philippines

Drug Situation and Anti-Drug Accomplishments

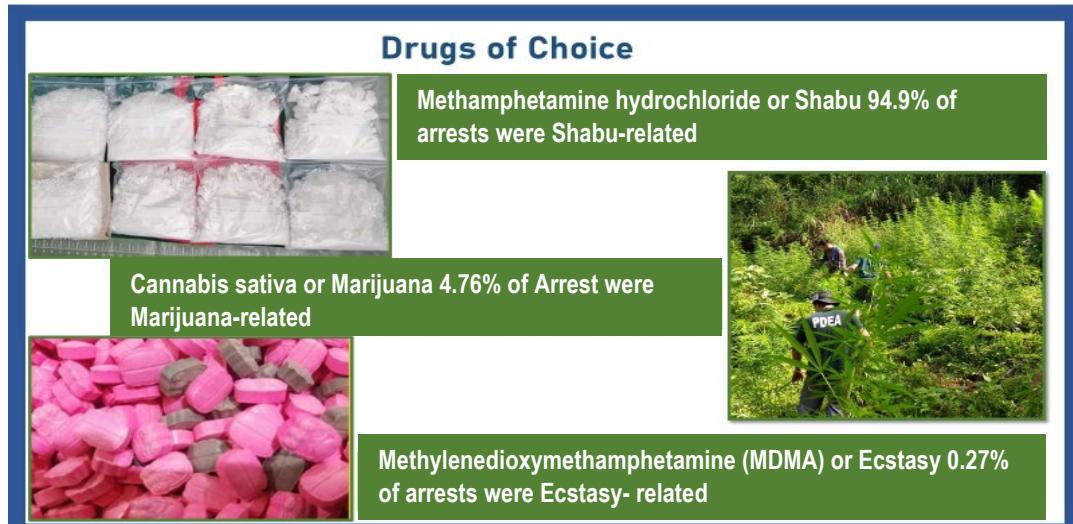
Amid the pandemic, The Philippines remains steadfast in implementing both drug supply and drug demand reduction programs guided by The Philippine Anti-Illegal Drugs Strategy.

From January to December 2022 alone, law enforcement agencies have conducted 37,427 operations which resulted in the arrest of 53,002 drug personalities and confiscation of dangerous drugs and Controlled Precursors and Essential Chemicals (CPECs) including 4,260.94 kilos of Shabu or Methamphetamine hydrochloride,

13.50 kilos of Cocaine, 30,213 pieces of ecstasy, and 18.86 kilos of Kush. A large volume of Marijuana, amounting to Php30.98 billion has also been seized.

In The Philippines, Methamphetamine hydrochloride or Shabu remains the number one drug of choice, followed by *Cannabis sativa* or Marijuana, which is cultivated, processed, traded, and locally used. Methyleneoxymethamphetamine (MDMA) or Ecstasy is also popular among party-goers.

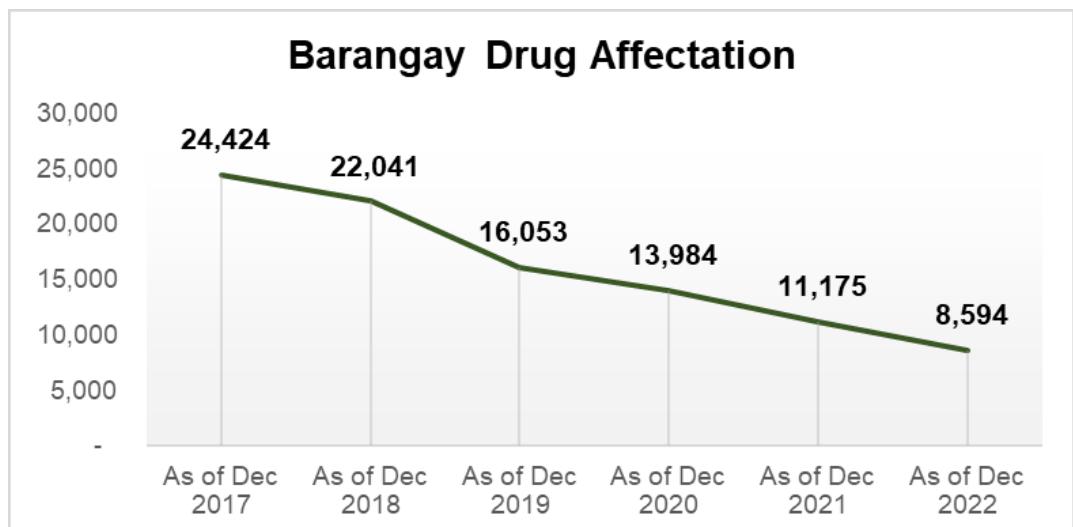
Dangerous Drugs Seized in 2022	
Dangerous Drugs	Volume
Shabu (gram)	4,260,935.63
Cocaine (gram)	13,497.27
Ecstasy (piece)	30,213
Marijuana	
Kush (gram)	18,856.44
Bricks (gram)	767,892.50
Dried leaves (gram)	2,233,776.97
Plants (piece)	6,970,912
Stalks (gram)	737,120.24
Fruiting tops (gram)	150,747.37
Seedlings (piece)	60,018
Seeds (gram)	13,083.93
Hashish (gram)	1,071.71



Drug Affectation

The relentless implementation of the Barangay Drug Clearing Program resulted in a decrease in the number of drug-affected barangay year by year. As of December 31, 2022, drug affectation has decreased to

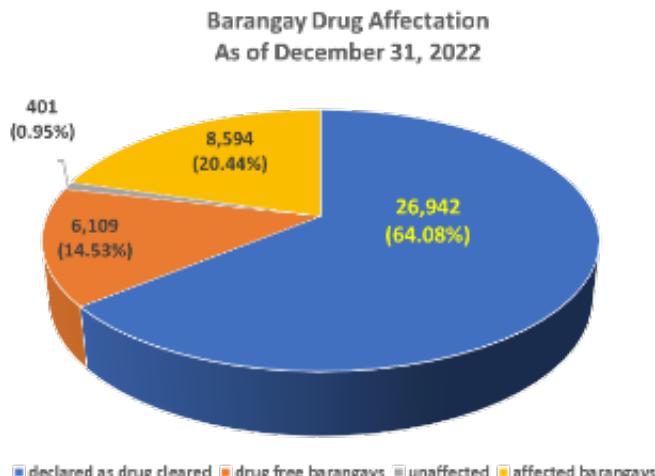
8,594 or 20.44% of the 42,045 total barangays. Efforts to clear barangays or villages of illegal drugs have come a long way. As compared to the drug affectation data in 2017 with 24,424 drug-affected barangays, the numbers in 2022 indicate a 37.66% reduction.



Barangay Drug Clearing Program

As of December 31, 2022, 26,942 barangays were declared as drug-cleared, 6,109 as drug-free barangays, and 401 barangays as drug unaffected. With BDCP the government aims clear to clear the remaining 8,594 drug-affected barangays.

BARANGAY DRUG CLEARING PROGRAM



In the same period, PDEA recorded the following interventions for Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUDs) through Treatment and Rehabilitation in Drug Cleared Barangays.

Drug Entry Points

The archipelagic characteristic of The Philippines is exploited by drug syndicates to transport illegal drugs and controlled precursors and essential chemicals (CPECs) into the country through four (4) major avenues: the seaports, the international airports, the mail and parcel services, and the vast expanse of The Philippine coastlines.

Interventions	No. of Ongoing Clients/Graduates (As of December 31, 2022)
Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program	300,805 Graduates
Rehabilitation (Facility-Based)	3,027 Ongoing/Graduates
General Intervention	67,405 Graduates

High-Impact Operations Conducted

As a result of the intensified anti-drug campaign, law enforcement agencies in The Philippines conducted a total of 987 high-impact operations that aimed to disrupt the supply of illegal drugs and prevent illegal drugs from reaching the communities.

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High-Impact Operations Conducted in 2022	
Dismantled Clandestine Laboratory	1
Dismantled Drug Dens	607
Eradicated Marijuana Plantation Sites	87
Operations with High-Volume Seizure	292
Total	987

High-Value Targets Arrested

PDEA and other law enforcement agencies were relentless in apprehending key players in the illegal drug trade. For CY 2022, a total of 3,643 high-value targets (HVTs) were arrested. These arrests are vital to disrupt the proliferation of dangerous drugs.

High-Value Targets Arrested in 2022	
Elected Official	40
Uniformed Personnel	16
Government Employee	171
Foreign National	64
Leader/Member of a Drug Group	9
Leader/Member of an Armed Group	11
Target-Listed Personality	277
Wanted-Listed Personality	8
Celebrity/Prominent/PRC/IBP	2
Drug Den Maintainer	619
Clandestine Laboratory Warehouse Worker	1
Arrest from HIOs	2,190
Other HVTs	235
Total	3,643

Foreign Nationals Arrested

A total of 64 foreign nationals were arrested for violation of RA 9165 or The Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

Nationality	No. of Arrested Personalities
African	2
American	8
Angolan	1
Australian	1
British	3
Canadian	1
Chinese	20
French	1
Indian	2
Iranian	1
Korean	5
Malaysian	1
Nigerian	8
Norwegian	1
South African	2
Sudanese	2
Taiwanese	3
Yemeni	2
Total	64

Drug Cases Filed

In CY 2022, law enforcement agencies filed 45,850 drug cases against arrested personalities nationwide in support of anti-illegal drug operations. During the year also, 25,306 drug cases have been resolved.

Minors Rescued

In 2022, PDEA and other law enforcement agencies (LEAs) rescued 827 minors during the conduct of anti-illegal drug operations. They were subsequently turned over to the local social welfare and development offices to undergo intervention and rehabilitation programs.

Major Drug Hauls

In 2022, PDEA made an indelible impact in disrupting the supply of illegal drugs and in immobilizing illegal drug syndicates.



109.50 kilograms of dried Cannabis leaves and fruiting tops were seized, and two (2) personalities were arrested during the interdiction operation conducted on February 25, 2022 in Lubuagan, Kalinga.



66 kilograms of Shabu were seized and two (2) drug personalities were arrested during successive buy-bust operations on March 1-2, 2022 in Cavite and Bulacan.



160 kilograms of Shabu were seized and two (2) drug personalities were arrested during the buy-bust operation conducted on March 8, 2022 in Valenzuela City.



81 kilograms of Shabu were seized and five (5) drug personalities including the leader of a drug trafficking group were arrested during the successive buy-bust operations conducted on June 2, 2022 in Dasmariñas City and General Trias, Cavite.



40 kilograms of Shabu were seized and a drug personality was arrested during the buy-bust operation conducted on July 3, 2022 in Quezon City.



360.45 kilograms of Shabu were seized and three (3) drug personalities were arrested during buy-bust operation conducted on August 12, 2022 in Pozorrubio, Pangasinan.



40.01 kilograms of Shabu were seized and one (1) drug personality was arrested during buy-bust operation conducted on August 12, 2022 in San Fernando City, La Union.



64.28 kilograms of Marijuana were seized and two (2) drug personalities were arrested during a land interdiction operation conducted on August 13, 2022 in Sadanga, Mountain Province.



2,984 pieces of Ecstasy tablets were seized and one (1) drug personality was arrested during a controlled delivery operation conducted on August 19, 2022 in Cebu City.



20 kilograms of Shabu were seized and one drug personality was arrested during the Implementation of Search Warrant conducted on November 18, 2022 in Ayala-Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City.

Advocacy Campaigns

From January 1 to December 31, 2022, PDEA, in collaboration with stakeholders and partners, conducted a total of 257,588 Preventive Education and Community Involvement (PECI) activities that include lectures, symposia, seminars, meetings, multi-media and social media efforts, civic awareness activities, and programs.

The PDEA recognizes the importance of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the implementation of the national campaign against illegal drugs. These CSOs serve as force multipliers of the Agency in promoting anti-drug advocacy.

Reformation of Drug Offenders

Balay Silangan Reformation Program, an intervention program for drug offenders specifically pushers, is in place, which aims to rectify and modify their negative attitudes and behaviors to enable them to be more productive and be reintegrated back into their families and community.

For CY 2022 alone, 111 Balay Silangan Reformation Centers were established which have produced 1,949 graduates and 894 employed individuals.

Since its institutionalization in 2018, 430 reformation centers have been established that have produced 5,672 graduates.

Interventions	No. of Ongoing Clients/Graduates (As of December 31, 2022)
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Rehabilitation (Facility-Based)	3,027 Ongoing/Graduates
General Intervention	67,405 Graduates

International Cooperation

PDEA continues to strengthen cooperation with international bodies and organizations in the fight against illegal drugs. In 2022, PDEA signed agreements with two (2) international counterpart

Memorandum of Agreements with International Counterparts

Name of Organization	Date of Signing	Venue of Signing
Australian Federal Police	August 5, 2022	Makati City
Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of (Brunei Darussalam)	December 14, 2022	PDEA NHQ, Quezon City

Treatment and Rehabilitation

Consolidated data from Treatment and Rehabilitation facilities nationwide recorded a total of 3,865 admissions. Below is the profile of drug users in the country based on this data.



PROFILE OF DRUG USERS (Facility Based)

Demographic Indicator (Admissions = 3,865 as of December 2022)	
Mean Age	33 years old
Sex Ratio (Male to Female)	10:1
Civil Status	Single (52.68%)
Status of Employment	Employed (58.40%) (Workers/Employees, Businessman and Self-Employed)
Educational Attainment	High School Level (26.99%)
Economic Status	Average Monthly Family Income Php13,199.22
Place of Residence	Urban Core (Specifically NCR 24.53%)
Duration of Drug-Taking	More than six (6) years
Nature of Drug-Taking	Mono Drug-Use
Drugs/Substance of Abuse	Methamphetamine Hydrochloride (Shabu), Cannabis (Marijuana) & MDMA (Ecstasy)

Statistical Analysis

In 2022, a total of 70 treatment and rehabilitation facilities reported their admissions through the Treatment and Rehabilitation Admission Information System (TRAIS). Of this number, 62 are residential, and eight (8) are outpatient.

Three thousand eight hundred sixty-five, (3,865) admissions were recorded from these reporting facilities comprising 3,343 new admissions, 79 readmissions or relapse cases, and 443 outpatient cases.

Compared with the previous year's cases, around 42.73% increase in admission was noted despite some facilities having reported no admissions. The rise in admission can be attributed to the resumption of operation by the different rehabilitation centers and the seeming willingness of the Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUDs) to undergo treatment and

rehabilitation as evidenced by almost 40.78% of voluntary submission and 29.00% cases who availed of plea bargaining.

Demographic Profile

The center admissions consist of ninety percent (90.06%) males, nine percent (9.08%) females, and around one percent (0.85%) LGBT. The male-to-female ratio is 10:1 with a computed mean of 33 years old and a median age of 34. The youngest admission for the year under review is 13, while the eldest is 72. The majority of the admissions belong to the age group of 40 years old and above with thirty-one percent (31.23%) of the reported cases.

Fifty-three percent (52.68%) are single and around twenty-four percent (23.91%) are married. Those who have live-in partners comprised nineteen percent (19.22%), and the rest, about four percent

(4.19%) are either widows/er, separated, divorced, or annulled.

As to educational attainment, almost a third (26.99%) have attained high school level. On the second spot are those who have reached college with twenty percent (19.61%) followed by those who have graduated high school at seventeen percent (17.44%).

The average monthly family income is around thirteen thousand pesos (Php 13,199.22).

Regarding the status of employment, those employed (either workers/employees or businessmen and self-employed) comprised fifty-eight percent (58.40%) while unemployed thirty-seven percent (37.05%). Three percent (3.49%) of the admission constitute students and almost one percent (0.88%) are out-of-school youth while a few (0.18%) were pensioners.

About twenty-five percent (24.53%) of reported cases are residents of the National

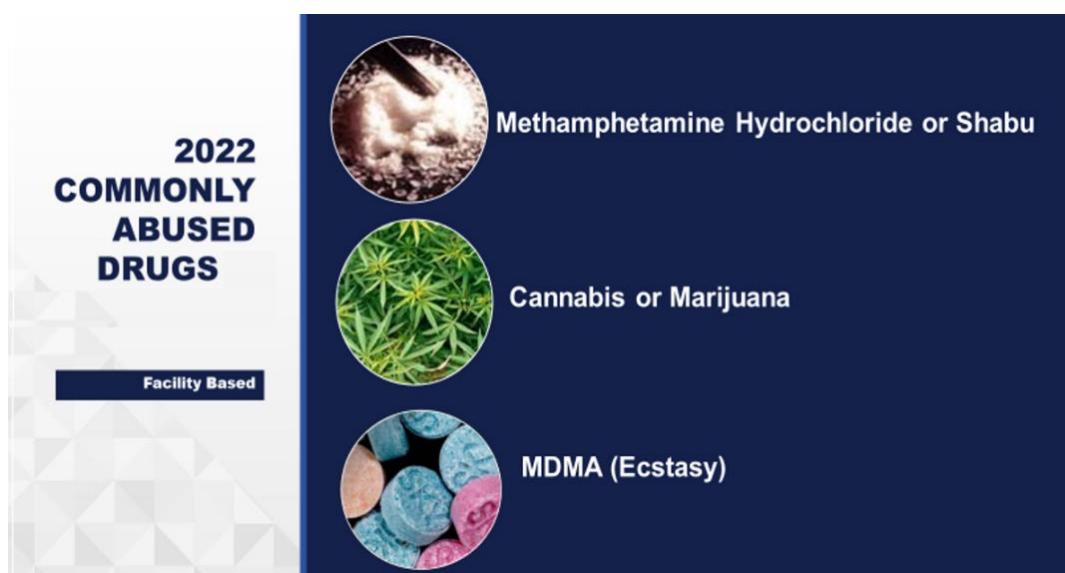
Capital Region while sixteen percent (16.25%) are from Region III.

Considering the age at first drug use, forty-one percent (41.32%) belong to ages 15 to 19 years old. Nearly thirty-nine percent (38.73%) admitted to having taken drugs two (2) to five (5) times a week while around twenty-five percent (24.68%) used drugs monthly and twenty-one percent (20.62%) weekly.

Most Commonly Abused Drugs

Methamphetamine Hydrochloride or "shabu" remains the leading drug of abuse, comprising ninety-two percent (92.06%) of the total admission. This is followed by cannabis (marijuana) at twenty-seven percent (27.04%) and followed distantly by MDMA or ecstasy as the third drug of choice at less than one percent (0.65%).

Mono-drug use is still the nature of drug-taking; the administration routes are inhalation/sniffing and oral ingestion.





Singapore

Overview

In 2022, CNB arrested 2,826 drug abusers. This was a 4% increase from the 2,729 drug abusers arrested in 2021.

The number of repeat drug abusers arrested increased by 13% to 2,024 in 2022, from 1,793 in 2021. The number of new drug abusers arrested decreased by 14% to 802 in 2022, from 936 in 2021. 50% of new abusers arrested were under 30 years old.

Methamphetamine, heroin, and cannabis were the three most commonly abused drugs in 2022, with 95% of drug abusers arrested abusing at least one of these three drugs. For new drug abusers, methamphetamine, cannabis and ecstasy were the three most commonly abused drugs, with 90% of new drug abusers arrested abusing at least one of these three drugs. Out of the 2,826 drug abusers in 2022, 589 abusers (21%) were poly-drug abusers who abused more than one type of drug.

Sustained Drug Enforcement

CNB continued to launch enforcement operations against drugs and worked closely

with Home Team agencies to detect and prevent the flow of drugs into and within Singapore.

In 2022, together with the Singapore Police Force and the Immigration & Checkpoints Authority, CNB conducted 11 island-wide operations targeting drug traffickers and abusers, as well as 783 operations at our checkpoints to intercept attempts to smuggle drugs into Singapore. CNB also carried out major operations that crippled 23 drug syndicates.

Drug Seizures

The drugs seized in 2022 were estimated to have a street value of about S\$16.66 million. There was a 29% decrease in seizures of heroin to 68.22kg in 2022, from 95.43kg in 2021. Cannabis seizures saw a 25% increase to 133.41kg in 2022, from 107.08kg in 2021. Seizures of crystalline methamphetamine (more commonly known as 'Ice') saw a 44% decrease to 28.15kg in 2022, from 49.95kg in 2021.

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Local Drug Seizures in 2022					
Drug type	2021	2022	% change in seizure	Estimated market value 2021	Estimated market value 2022
Heroin No.3	95.43kg	68.22kg	-28.5%	\approx S\$18.31 million	\approx S\$16.66 million
Methamphetamine ('Ice')	49.95kg	28.15kg	-43.6%		
Cannabis	107.08kg	133.41kg	+24.6%		
Cocaine	0.98g	405.22g	+41,249%		
'Ecstasy'	9,313 tablets + 252.27g	8,024 tablets + 1,082.48g	-13.8% (tablets) +329.1% (weight)		
Methamphetamine tablets ('Yaba')	29 tablets	2,313 tablets	+7,875.9%		
Ketamine	3.46kg + 747 tablets	3.97kg + 641 tablets	+14.7% (weight) -14.2% (tablets)		
Erimin-5	13,292 tablets	10,906 tablets	-18.0%		
Buprenorphine ('Subutex')	NIL	NIL	NIL		
New Psychoactive Substances (NPS) (e.g. synthetic cannabinoids and synthetic cathinones)	2,775 tablets + 6,681.6g + 249 bottles + 9 stamps	171 tablets + 571.11g + 57 bottles	-93.8% (tablets) -91.5% (weight) - 77.1% (bottles) - 100% (stamps)		

Thailand

Overview

The geopolitics of Thailand which is near the Golden Triangle area, the largest drug production site in Asia, and the constant transportation infrastructure development made Thailand become market and transit routes for drug trafficking to the third countries. In the past few years, during the outbreak of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19), the governments of all countries including Thailand enforced various measures, such as social distancing, prohibition of group activities, border shutdowns, and restriction of traveling between countries, to prevent and control the COVID-19 pandemic. People had to adapt themselves to the situation which caused substantial growth and expansion of online social networks and parcel/cargo services. Drug syndicates took advantage of these changes to reduce the risks of revealing their identities. Online social media also allowed drug traders to improve their marketing by posting images, videos, and texts to attract more customers, making drug

trafficking rapidly spread out and difficult for authorities to detect. In 2022, the COVID-19 situation began to subside, so the restrictions and measures for COVID-19 prevention were eased. Drug syndicates quickly resumed their businesses at the level before the pandemic. The economic and social conditions as well as people's way of life which has been changed after the COVID-19 pandemic, made the trafficking and prevalence of drugs likely to increase continuously.

Drug Trafficking Situation

Thailand has been facing the problem of being the illicit drug markets and trafficking routes from the Golden Triangle area. A large amount of Methamphetamine tablets (Yaba), crystal methamphetamine (Ice), heroin, ketamine, and cannabis are found being imported to Thailand. Northern and Northeastern border areas remained the main drug trafficking routes from the production sites in the Golden Triangle while some were smuggled through the Western border areas. Most of the smuggled drugs

were traditional drugs such as heroin, methamphetamine tablets, Ice, and ketamine. Those drugs were transported to be kept in the central region, particularly Bangkok, before trafficking to the southern region of Thailand. Drugs from other regions such as ecstasy from Europe and cocaine from South America were also found being trafficked to Thailand. Drug syndicates used various routes and methods for trafficking, for example, seaports, airports, parcel posts including border checkpoints and natural border paths. Among all those channels, airports and seaports required the greatest monitoring.

Last year, Thailand's Airport Interdiction Task Force could arrest 1 6 2 drug cases while the Seaport Interdiction Task Force could arrest 8 cases. The illicit drugs often smuggled through both airports and seaports have been Ice, heroin, and ketamine. In addition, cocaine, ecstasy, and methamphetamine tablets were also smuggled through the airports.

Drug Epidemic Situation

Drug epidemic situation tends to spread widely, corresponding to the increase of drug production outside the country. The cheaper price of drugs stimulated drug use in the country and caused more new drug addicts. Methamphetamine tablets, Ice, and heroin are the main drug prevalence in Thailand. However, designer drugs such as Happy Water and ecstasy-mixed coffee containing a mixture of various psychoactive

substances such as MDMA, ketamine, methamphetamine, Nimetazepam, caffeine, and heroin were frequently found over the past year. The users were mostly teenagers and clubbers who misunderstood that those illicit drugs were not harmful and aimed at the stronger effects.

The price of illicit drugs produced in the region, such as methamphetamine tablets, Ice, heroin, and ketamine, was continuously declined since drug syndicates have upgraded their technology in drug production which could multiply their productivity, replaced the primary precursors and chemicals with uncontrolled substances, exploited online channels, in particular, LINE, Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram applications, for drug trades. In terms of drug delivery, drug dealers have switched from traditional methods to new ones in order to evade detection by authorities, such as private transport companies, drug retailers, and postal services. These factors made the cost of drug production reduced, then the selling price also dropped. The areas that confronted the drug epidemic were the major cities/provinces with a high density of population.

In 2022, the interesting trend that should be monitored was the increase in the misuse of medicinal drugs. Most of them were painkillers, antidepressants, sleeping pills, antihistamines, Parkinson's drugs antipsychotics, etc.

Drug Law Enforcement

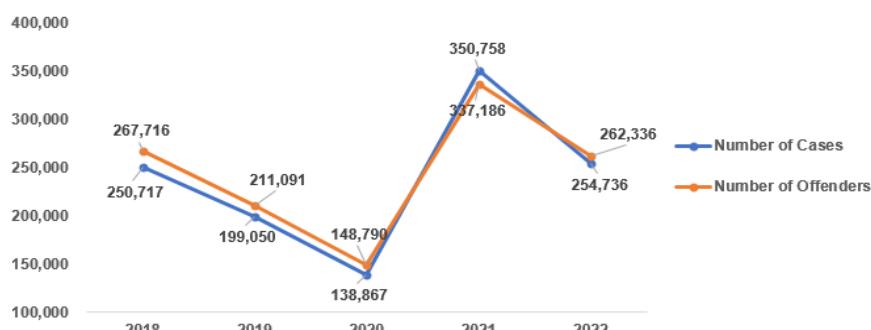
There were two important measures for drug suppression in Thailand as follows;

1. Drug interdiction: to block illicit drugs from the production site to the inner area of the country, impede precursors and chemicals to enter the Golden Triangle area, and guard the land, sea, and air routes for not being exploited as drug trafficking routes to the third countries. Moreover, the modern technologies are being applied to drug investigations.

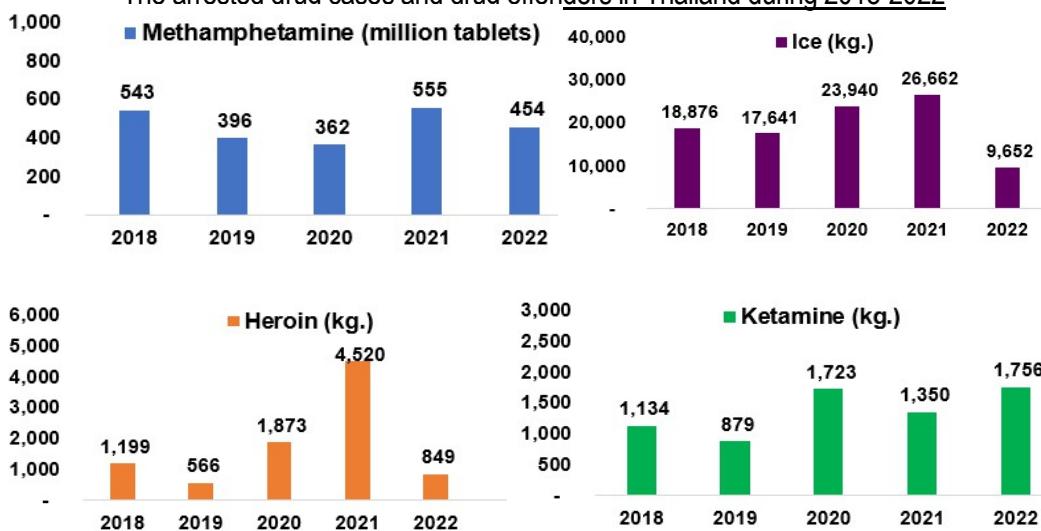
2 . Drug syndicate suppression: to eradicate domestic and international drug

syndicates and their networks by using property and conspiracy measures, expanding investigations, and applying modern tools and technologies to the investigations.

As a result of the strict law enforcement measures, in 2022, 254,736 drug cases and 262,336 drug offenders were detected. In line with the arrested drug cases, seized drugs comprised 454 million tablets of methamphetamine, 9,652 kilograms of Ice, 849 kilograms of heroin, 1,756 kilograms of ketamine, 50 kilograms of cocaine, 461,862 tablets of ecstasy, and 18,097 kilograms of cannabis as shown in graphs below;



The arrested drug cases and drug offenders in Thailand during 2018-2022



For dealing with drug trafficking networks, property-based confiscation and value-based confiscation were implemented by relevant agencies under the related laws, such as Narcotics Code 2021, Anti-money Laundering Act, and tax measures under Revenue Code. Moreover, Thailand has enhanced the capacity building for officers

responsible for property seizures by providing them with knowledge of law enforcement, measures of property seizures under Narcotics Code 2021, and innovative technologies. With such competencies, property seizures related to drug cases were skyrocketed. In 2022, the value of seized properties in drug cases was more than 11 billion Baht.

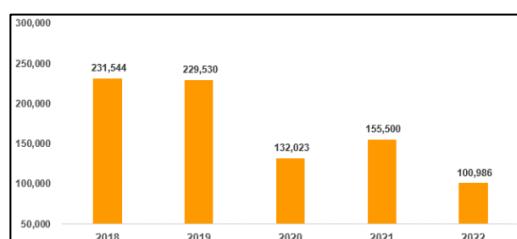
Fiscal Year	The value of the asset (Million Baht)
2018	1,228.66
2019	949.59
2020	790.57
2021	7,346.82
2022	11,003.02

Table: The statistics on the asset seizure and confiscation during 2018 – 2022

Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation

Since the Narcotics Code of Thailand was effective and entered into force on December 9, 2021, Thailand put the importance on encouraging drug users to undergo voluntary treatment instead of compulsory and providing them with social rehabilitation by supporting them to improve their quality of life in terms of residence, education, occupation and monitoring them until they could be reintegrated to the society. In 2022, there were 100,986 drug users admitted to the treatment, 64.90% were new drug patients. Methamphetamine tablets (79.4%), Ice (5.7%), and heroin (4.8%) were the most common drugs used by patients. When considering the age

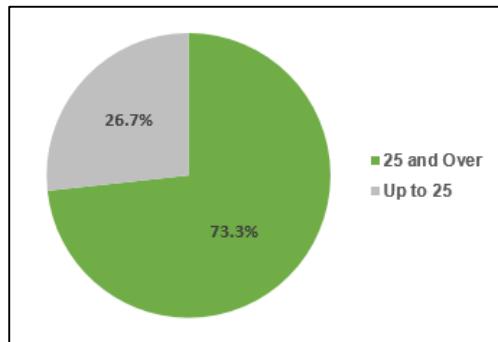
groups of drug patients, the majority of them (73.3%) were at the age of 25 and over, while another 26% of them were under that age.



Number of drug patients during 2018-2022

Apart from rehabilitation by medical measure, Thailand has implemented Community-Based Treatment (CBTx) to involve the community in taking care of drug

users sustainably and psychosocial therapy counsellings clinics in court system to prevent recidivism.



Age groups of drug patients in 2022

Besides, Thailand has enhanced cooperation between relevant agencies to work out on people with psychotic disorders from drug use to minimize social problems from these people.

Drug Prevention

Drug Prevention Measures in Thailand have been as follows;

1. Apply alternative development programs to strengthen villages and communities along the border areas



Thailand has initiated the alternative development projects for strengthening the villages/communities along the borders and

promoting drug prevention. In the past year, there were many projects implemented across the northern part of Thailand to solve



problems in a holistic view and improve the quality of life of the people such as developing basic factors of life, solving social, economic, education, and health inequality, and raising economic opportunities by providing the people with knowledge, skill, budget, and market.

2. Apply proper measures against drugs in each target group

Thailand took proper action against drugs in each target group, including children and youth, military/police groups,



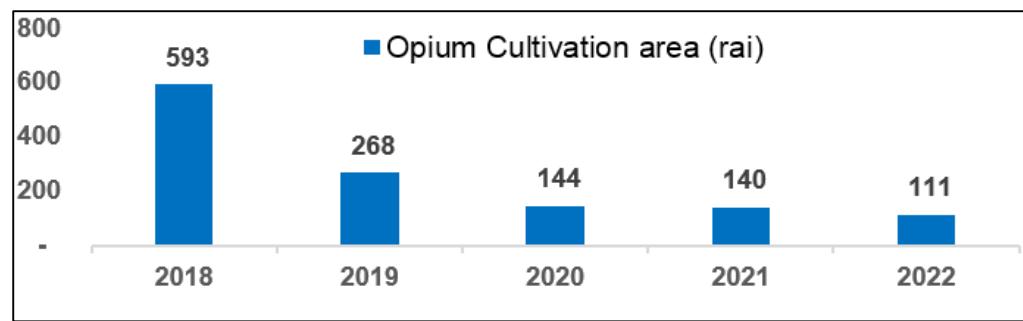
and labor. The targets were encouraged and enhanced drug resistance skills to prevent them from involving with dangerous drugs. Children and youth have received special attention. In 2022, the major projects/activities for this group were as follows:

2.1 Publishing 56,790 tale books to develop brain skills and drug immunity of early childhood children with Executive Function (EF) approach.

2.2 Organizing Youth Network on Drug Prevention Program (YNDPP) to strengthen drug prevention network among youth from six countries in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region (Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam).

3. Enhance participation of families and communities

Thailand also encouraged families and communities to participate in the prevention of drug problems in their area, especially by taking care of the risk groups and campaigning to prevent drug use in each target group continuously. The involvement of families and communities will lead to the achievement and sustainable results in drug immunization among all target groups.



Opium cultivation area during 2018-2022

Illicit Crop Cultivation

Although the area of opium cultivation in Southeast Asia increased by 2 percent, the area of opium cultivation in Thailand continues to decline. The area of opium cultivation in Thailand in 2022 was 110.09 rai, which decreased from the previous year (140.38 rai in 2021), and represented a reduction of 20.86%. It has been considered the smallest opium cultivation area since 1979.

There are 2 methods used in opium cultivation surveys in Thailand; aerial survey and ground survey. Survey data are analyzed together with topographic maps, satellite image maps, and GPS in order to produce maps of opium fields for the use of opium eradication units. In the past year, the survey results revealed that the opium cultivation areas have continuously decreased over the past few years since the farmers have experienced many problems during the opium poppy growing season. Therefore, it is predicted that the opium

poppy cultivation in some areas will gradually decline or disappear, especially in areas where a serious destructive measure has been implemented. However, there remained attempts to legally cultivate the opium poppies in some areas such as valleys or deep forests along the border which are difficult for government officials to access and the climate is suitable for opium poppy growing. The farmers were also equipped with modern agricultural

technology that allowed them to increase harvest per plot.

The estimated price of raw opium was rather high due to:

1. Successful eradication has left only a small amount of raw opium available for local markets.

2. A number of opium users remained high, especially in the areas where opium cultivation was dense.



Aerial and ground surveys of the opium cultivation

Drug Analysis

The Narcotic Analysis and Technical Service Institute of the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), Thailand, is responsible for analyzing and reporting the

information on seized drugs; physical data such as packaging and stamps on drugs, and chemical data such as the purity of drugs and types of chemical precursors used for drug production.

Drug analysis results of the most prevalent drugs in Thailand are following:

1. Methamphetamine tablets (Yaba)

Most of methamphetamine tablets seized in Thailand were round, flat, orange and green colors, and stamped with "wy" (99.8%). Other stamps such as Y1, A, and 999 were occasionally found.



Stamps and colors of methamphetamine tablets found in Thailand



Brand marks on packaging of methamphetamine tablets found in Thailand

In addition, most of methamphetamine tablets seized in Thailand were produced from various precursors namely Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine (74.6%), followed by Phenyl-2-Propanone (P2P) (22.4%) and others (3%). The main active ingredient of methamphetamine tablets was Methamphetamine Hydrochloride. In 2022, it was found that 80.84% of seized methamphetamine tablet samples contained 15.01-20.00% of methamphetamine purity. In addition, 83.43% of seized methamphetamine tablet samples contained 70.01-80.00% of caffeine purity.

2. Ice

Ice packaging generally found in Thailand are Chinese tea bags with different brand marks such as GUANYINWANG, QINGSHAN, YILIUBA, DAGUANYIN, and plain Chinese tea bags without letters. Over 90% of Methamphetamine Hydrochloride was found as purity in Ice samples, which was over 95% by weight. When considering types of chemical precursors, Ice was potentially produced from Ephedrine/Pseudoephedrine and Phenyl-2-Propanone (P2P).



Ice packaging found in Thailand

3. Ecstasy

Ecstasy was mostly smuggled into Thailand through the airports by courier and postal services from Europe. Most of the samples contain 3,4-Methylenedioxy methamphetamine Hydrochloride (MDMA) as the main active ingredient with a purity of 40.01-50.00%.

Moreover, in 2022, Thailand seized designer drugs containing a mixture of ecstasy, other drugs, and various psychoactive substances in order to get stronger effects.



Ecstasy found in Thailand

Moreover, in 2022, Thailand seized designer drugs containing a mixture of ecstasy, other drugs, and various psychoactive substances in order to get stronger effects.

Types of Designer Drugs	Pictures	Drug Analysis Information
Ecstasy-mixed coffee		<p>The samples were brown powder containing 1.68-2.14% of MDMA purity, 0.11-0.18% of Nimetazepam purity, 0.23-0.33% of ketamine purity, and caffeine.</p>

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Types of Designer Drugs	Pictures	Drug Analysis Information
Ecstasy-mixed coffee		The samples were blue powder containing 69.46% of MDMA purity and 0.53% of Nimetazepam purity.
Happy Water		The samples had several colors and good smell.

International Cooperation

Thailand gives priority to the cooperation on drug control with all ASEAN Member States, both bilateral and multilateral frameworks. In 2022, Thailand hosted bilateral meetings with Myanmar in April, Malaysia in July, and Viet Nam in August. In addition, Thailand hosted the Meeting on the Operation Plan for Precursor Chemical and Interdiction between Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Thailand in December. The meeting focused on the joint control and elimination of precursor chemicals, especially Sodium Cyanide, Benzyl Cyanide, and Benzyl Chloride.





Thailand also recognizes the importance of capacity building for drug enforcement officers, not only Thai officials but also those from other countries. The International Narcotics Control College (INCC) was established in Chiang Rai Province. With the aim of being an international training center, the college has developed curriculums for drug prevention and suppression, law enforcement, and modern tools and technologies. Last year, we appointed the experts to train Lao narcotics laboratory scientists in Oudomxay Province. The program focused on drug analysis through Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrophotometer (GCMS). Additionally, we conducted a training program for Lao narcotics law enforcement officers in Vientiane. The program focused on drug syndicate network analysis by using the IBM i2 Analyst's Notebook programme.

In August 2022, Thailand organized the Youth Network on Drug Prevention Program (YNDPP) for youth from six countries in the Greater Mekong Sub-Region namely Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand, and Viet Nam. During the program, they had an opportunity to gain knowledge and broaden their experiences in drug control, especially drug prevention, including developing youth network in the region through activities, meetings, and discussions.

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Another important program was the Joint Special Taskforce Eagle 19 Training between Thailand - Lao PDR Drug Law Enforcement Officers which was held in October 2022 in Bangkok. The objectives of the training were to provide the trainees with

the essential skills, establish special task forces to combat drug cases and cooperate among ASEAN anti-drug task forces.

Thailand has committed to addressing and solving drug problems in collaboration with ASEAN Member States.





Viet Nam

The drug crime situation in the world and the region in 2022 is complicated. Although the viewpoints and policies on drug control are different from country to country, the tendency of determined fighting and refusing to compromise with this type of crime still takes majority. In Southeast Asia, the situation of trafficking illicit drugs is becoming more and more complex, which creates a number of challenges and difficulties in the fight against drug crimes in our country.

Domestically, the situation of drugs in four hot spots including Northwest, Northeast, North Central, Central Highlands and Southwest continues to be complicated. On the Northeast route, the drug trafficking between Viet Nam and China has a falling trend. However, there exists some crime groups trafficking drug from border provinces in the Northwest, North Central, Southwest to northern border provinces to transport into China. On the air and postal route, criminals take advantage of express delivery, goods consignment and non-

commercial activities to illegally transport drugs from some countries in Europe to Viet Nam for consumption or transit to a third country. The sea route contains a number of complicated and unexpected factors, thus becoming a hot spot that offenders can take advantage to traffic and transport illicit drugs in large quantities from foreign countries to Viet Nam then transit to a third country for consumption.

Relating to high-tech drug crimes, the offenders take advantage of the development of science - technology such as using international bank cards for payment, using crypto currency like bitcoin, ethereum which are null in Viet Nam but still have exchange and payment value in some other countries, communicating through social media like zalo, Facebook, viber, telegram... and deep web in order to conduct crime, causing difficulties for crime detection, investigation and handling.

Statistically, the total number of drug addicts, people under post- management

and illicit drug users nation-wide is over 262,000 in total. This is determined to be a huge “demand” for drugs, creating a huge pressure on the fight against drug crimes. The situation of organizing, harboring and enticing other people for illicit drug usage continues to be complicated. After Covid-19

has been controlled and the enterprises under special conditions on security and order have brought their business activities back to normal, the situation of organizing illicit drug usage has a trend of increasing substantially.

Drug Treatment in Viet Nam in 2022

Currently, there are 196,110 drug addicts and 50,962 active illegal drug users in Viet Nam. This brings about negative effects on the stability of security and order, places considerable pressure on labour, employment and other aspects of social security.

Under this circumstance, the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam has issued Detailed Guidance on the management of illegal drug users and drug treatment pursuant to Law on Prevention and Control of Narcotic Substances for public security force of agencies and provinces nation-wide to implement consistently; directed local public security forces to enhance measures of illegal drug users, subjects suspected of addiction exhibit psychotic symptoms, “meth psychosis”; implemented the management of drug addicts and illegal drug users on the application that commune public security forces use for managing subjects on the National database system of residence.

In Viet Nam, there are currently 110 drug treatment centers nation-wide, including 97 state-owned centers and 13 centers established by organizations or individuals. In 2022, state-owned centers

treated 49,596 people, private centers treated 2,715 people. So far, 19 provinces and cities have voluntary drug treatment at families and community for 2,058 people, 124 facilities are eligible to supply voluntary drug treatment service. The Ministry of Health gave direction and guidance on implementing drug treatment by methadone alternative for 51,569 people at 343 facilities in 63 provinces and cities, prescribed methadone for 2,857 eligible people to use at home. The Department of Health of 61 out of 63 provinces and cities have announced 3,521 healthcare facilities which are able to do addict determination. Ministry of Health of Viet Nam handed over the aid of 1000 Bong Sen doses supporting the cessation of drug treatment to the Government of Lao PDR in 2022.

Besides this, the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs collaborated with

Colombo Plan to implement the pilot model of supporting, consulting legal and social affairs for people receiving drug treatment in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh city, collaborated with the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Planning and Investment to complete the procedure of financing Cambodia in some items of the project building Voluntary Community-based Drug Treatment Service Center.

The post-treatment management is conducted entirely by provinces for 24,558 people. Many provinces offer rehabilitation and post-treatment management, support post-treatment people in employment, and loans for production, in order to stabilize their lives and prevent them from relapsing.



Strengthening Preventive Education on Drug Prevention and Control

In 2022, ministries, sectors, press agencies, central and local radio stations in Viet Nam strengthened the propaganda on drug prevention and control, especially at complicated hot spots, border areas, industrial parks, processing zones and schools, focusing on the Law on Prevention and Control of Narcotic Substances, harm and consequences of drugs, the result of drug prevention and control of the relevant authorities as well as modus-operandi of drug criminals.

The Ministry of Public Security consulted the Government and the National Committee on direct effective implementation of Action Month for drug prevention and control; successfully organized a demonstration supporting the Action Month, created positive spillover effects, made propaganda on drug prevention and control widely in

different sectors, levels and community. The Ministry of National Defense directed armed forces to strengthen the propaganda on drug and prevention and control for people at border areas and fishermen at coastal areas. In the past year, 32,373 propaganda programs have been organized with over 1 million listeners, 109 art performances have

been held to bring propaganda content on stage, 1,120 articles, reports, documentaries have been broadcast on mass media.



The Ministry of Information and Communication directed press agencies to increase the propaganda duration and frequency; issued free of charge 40,000 stamps containing messages and images on drug prevention and control in some mountainous and border provinces.

The Ministry of Education and Training issued 22,783 document sets on counter-narcotics skills to students, teachers and

parents; organized 16 training programs, gave propaganda to more than 10,000 teachers, educators, parents, students in a number of provinces including Cao Bang, Bac Kan, Vinh Long, Thua Thien Hue. Viet Nam Television Station, Voice of Viet Nam, Viet Nam Radio and Viet Nam News Agency diversified propaganda contents and programs, published over 3,000 articles, papers, reports and talk shows about the Law on Prevention and Control of Narcotic Substances, best practices, effective counter-narcotics models at the local level.



Law Enforcement

For the year 2022 on a nation-wide scale, the relevant authorities have successfully handled 24,000 cases, arrested more than 36,000 drug-related offenders, seized 741 kilograms of heroin, 105 kilograms of opium, 268 kilograms of cannabis, 4.7 tons of methamphetamine, 202 guns, 496 billion VND.

Prominent Cases

Operation 322D

On May 14th 2022, Counter-Narcotics Police Department hosted and collaborated with other forces to successfully carry-out Operation 322D of a crime group trafficking and transporting illicit drugs from Cambodia through the border with Tay Ninh province to Ho Chi Minh city for consumption, seizing 6

offenders headed by Nguyen Van Thom (aged 36, resident of Dong Nai province), and 46 kilograms of drugs (methamphetamine, ketamine). Expanding the investigation of the case, the investigation force detected that the offenders had managed to traffic 6 shipments with over 200 kilograms of drugs.



Arrested offender Nguyen Van Thom in Operation 322D

Moreover, Nguyen Van Thom stated that Vu Hoang Oanh (aged 65, hometown: Hai Phong) was the mastermind of the crime group trafficking drugs from foreign countries to Viet Nam then transporting to other countries for consumption.

Operation 822T

From Operation 322D, the Counter-Narcotics Police Department opened Operation 822T to gather forces for combating the crime group headed by Vu Hoang Oanh (also named Oanh Ha, aged 65, hometown: Hai Phong). Vu Hoang Oanh

has had 7 criminal records in total. On September 13th 2022, the Counter-Narcotics Police Department collaborated with operational units of the Ministry of Public Security and police forces of other countries in the region to carry-out Operation 822T, arresting 19 offenders, seizing 75 kilograms of drugs of all types. Expanding the investigation of the case, the relevant authorities arrested 29 offenders, seized 131 kilograms of drugs, determined that the offenders had illegally trafficked and consumed over 1.6 tons of drugs.



Offender Vu Hoang Oanh and drugs-hiding methods

Highlights of International Cooperation On Drug Control

Practice shows that no country can effectively fight drug crimes alone. Therefore, it is necessary to have close cooperation between countries in the prevention and suppression of transnational drug crimes. The Viet Nam Counter-Narcotics Police Force always focuses on international cooperation with other countries in both scale and quality in order to promptly respond to the complicated developments of drug crimes.



The 3rd Trilateral Conference between the CNPD Viet Nam the Border Guard Command, ADP of Cambodia in January 2023 in Viet Nam

Implement a Series of Specific and Effective Cooperation Measures with Bordering Countries.

The cooperation relationship between Viet Nam's Counter-Narcotics Police Force and the police of neighboring countries such as Laos, Cambodia, and China continue to be consolidated, considered as top strategic partners. Programs and activities of bilateral cooperation on drug prevention and control always follow the direction and leadership of the Ministry of Public Security; professional activities are strengthened, especially initial information gathering to proactively develop plans to coordinate and fight transnational drugs crimes networks and groups. Specifically:

With Laos PDR, in 2022, the Counter-Narcotics Police Department coordinated to implement the Memorandum of Understanding between the two Ministries of

Public Security on cooperation in drug prevention and control, organized 2 Ministerial Conferences to implement the Memorandum of Understanding, and 2 trainings for 60 Lao delegates on drug investigation and detoxification in Quang Binh and Thua Thien Hue provinces.



Bilateral meeting between Viet Nam and Lao PDR on drug control cooperation in June 2022

With the Kingdom of Cambodia, the Counter-Narcotics Police Department sent a delegation to attend the opening ceremony of the National Drug Treatment Center and worked with NACD in Phnom Penh and Sihanouk province (March 20-23, 2022); effectively implementing the agreements and cooperation minutes on the control of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors. In 2022, Viet Nam holding the 3rd Trilateral Conference between the Counter-Narcotics Police Department, the Border Guard Command, and the Anti-Drugs Department, the National Police, Ministry of Interior, the Kingdom of Cambodia; Organizing 2 trainings on capacity building in drug prevention and control for Cambodian delegates.

With China, the Counter-Narcotics Police Department summarized the implementation of the plan on the peak of propaganda, attack and suppression of drug-related crimes in the Viet Nam- China border in 7 border provinces. As a result, in the 3 peak months, Viet Nam detected and arrested 639 cases, 1000 subjects, seized 47,536 kg + 101 bricks of heroin, 923.17g of opium... and many related pieces of evidence.

Promote bilateral cooperation on drug prevention and control with partners

Through cooperation activities, Viet Nam has received the support of other countries and international organizations in exchanging and verifying information, coordinating joint operations related to transnational drug crime networks, training, capacity building and equipping facilities, effectively serving the prevention and combat of drugs crimes in Viet Nam.

With Thailand: Send a delegation to attend the 14th Bilateral Conference on Cooperation in Drug Prevention and Control, a delegation to attend the Youth Network in Drug Prevention and Control held in Thailand and Laos, a delegation to study the experience of drug prevention and control in Thailand for the ministerial-level research “International cooperation in crime prevention and control in the new situation”; Organize training for the Forensic Force on drug profiling measures.

With the United States: Implement, supervise the repair, and receive the Drug

Investigation Training Center in Cua Lo, Nghe An funded by the United States; Organize a field survey trip on drug prevention and control in Hoa Binh and Son La; Send an interdisciplinary working group on drug prevention and control to the United States; Coordinated to organize 3 training courses on tactical safety for drug investigators.

With Australia: The Australian Federal Police has sent technical experts to Viet Nam to help the Counter-Narcotics Police Department to extract electronic devices seized in an operation; The two sides held a field survey trip on drug prevention and control in Tay Ninh; The Counter-Narcotics Police Department has sent a delegation to work in Australia.

Fully and responsibly participate in multilateral cooperation forums regionally and internationally

The Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam has effectively implemented international agreements that Viet Nam has joined in the frameworks of CND, MOU 1993, ASEAN, INCB, UNODC, demonstrating Viet Nam's roles and responsibilities in the regional and international forums on drug prevention and control such as: the framework of the annual meeting of the United Nations Commission on Narcotics Drugs (CND); Cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB); Mekong Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on Drug Control; Cooperation with ASEAN countries;

Cooperation within the framework of the Border Management Program with UNODC to develop BLOs network.

In the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC) initiative, implementing the Action Plan on Drug Control for a Safe Mekong region in the period of 2019-2022, Viet Nam commits to fulfill its responsibility to host the operation of Safe Mekong Coordination Center. In February 2023, Viet Nam welcomed 12 counter-narcotics officers from 5 countries in the Mekong River region to work at Viet Nam SMCC.

Effectively exchange criminal information, meeting the practical requirements of the fight against transnational drug crimes.

Through the mutual legal assistance channel, Viet Nam Police has received and processed hundreds of mutual legal assistance requests in criminal matters, wanted persons and international cooperation in criminal procedure related to the transfer of legal request for criminal prosecution, serving files and documents, recording testimonies, freezing of assets resulting from crimes...in order to support the investigation and criminal proceedings of law enforcement.

Effectively use funded resources for domestic counter-narcotics forces.

The Counter-Narcotics Police Department and the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam has coordinated with relevant agencies to organize international

delegations such as the United States, Australia, UNODC, INCB, Thailand... to conduct field surveys at complex drug-related areas, using funded resources to serve the implementation of drug prevention and control plans along key routes and areas. The United States, Australia, INCB, Thailand and UNODC partners have committed to continue to provide funding and equipment for Viet Nam's drug prevention and control through the Counter-Narcotics Police Department in 2023.

Negotiate and sign international agreements on drugs prevention and control.

In 2022, Viet Nam has drafted and signed international cooperation agreements on drug prevention and control, creating a basis for implementing cooperation activities in bilateral and multilateral mechanisms, contributing to the establishing, expanding and substantive bilateral relations, and at the same time enhancing Viet Nam's role in multilateral mechanisms, including: Extension of the Safe Mekong River Action Plan on drugs control among 6 countries (Cambodia, China, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) in the period of 2019 - 2022; Signing the 5th extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam and the Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States in the fight against transnational drug crimes signed on March 10, 2006; Drafting the Memorandum of Understanding between the Counter-Narcotics Police

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Department, Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam and the National Police Agency, Ministry of Justice of Mongolia on drug prevention and control and precursors control; Signing of Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in preventing and combating the illegal trafficking of drugs, psychotropic substances and precursors between the Ministry of Public Security of Viet Nam and the National Committee on Drug Control of Indonesia (December 2022);

Coordinating with the Australian Federal Police Office to discuss the draft of Letter of Exchange on cooperation in law enforcement and drug control.

Entering 2023, the Viet Nam Counter-Narcotics Police Force continues to innovate, improve professional quality, promote foreign information to strengthen cooperation with law enforcement agencies of other countries.

CHAPTER 4

Research Knowledge and Innovation



Myanmar

This is sharing about danger happy water in Myanmar. This is Analysis results of Happy Water form ONCB lab. Myanmar send happy water 6 sample to ONCB lab for analysis on during 2022. All of sample happy water is Seizure from Golden Triangle Area.

Mainly compound is MDMA, Ketamine, Caffeine, Methamphetamine and Nitazepam. Ketamine has the highest percentage content and followed by caffeine and MDMA.

Analysis Results of "HAPPY WATER" from MYANMAR

Sample No.	Case Number	Police Station
1	29/2022	Tachileik
2 - 3	38/2022	Tachileik
4 - 6	24/2022	Hong Lek

Narcotics Analysis and Technical Service Institute
NATSI

Summary of analysis results

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Case Number	29/2022	38/2022		24/2022		
Police Station	Tachileik	Tachileik		Hong Lek		
Net Weight(gram)	1.54	18.07	18.223	1.047	1.064	1.267
Component (%)						
MDMA	7.82	0.67	2.39	17.21	14.13	15.79
Ketamine	45.53	0.65	2.68	19.61	19.76	19.73
Caffeine	36.18	0.50	0.42	16.27	21.91	18.15
Methamphetamine	-	0.01	-	19.79	18.88	19.29
Nitazepam	-	0.24	0.26	-	-	-
THC	-	✓	-	-	-	-

Narcotics Analysis and Technical Service Institute
NATSI

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The Seizure of happy water mainly compound on 2021 and 2022. In 2022, we started to seizure happy water from Golden Triangle Area.

No	2021		2022		Unit
	Case	Amount	Case	Amount	
Happy Water		-	33	159.92	Kg
Ketamine	8	762.02	51	2328.62	Kg
Caffeine	2	9355	5	9036.01	Kg
Methamphetamine	126	13815.77	175	23041.91	Kg

Seizure of Happy Water and Mainly Related Compound



Happy Water Packaging design.

The Philippines

Research Fora

The Dangerous Drugs Board, as the lead agency on drug prevention and control, conducted studies and research in pursuit of policy-making and strategy formulation.

For 2022, the Board conducted the Policy and Research Forum on Drug Prevention and Control. It provided an avenue for cooperative research and exchange of scientific information on research in the field of drug prevention and control. It also included network-building activities and a series of research symposia undertaken by the Dangerous Drugs Board and other related research on drug prevention and control from different sectors and institutions.

In compliance with the health protocols during the pandemic, the series of research symposiums and featured policies were presented once every quarter which utilized the blended platforms. The output is the research publication of the findings of the featured studies and policies to serve as the basis for policy formulation and as inputs in implementing drug abuse prevention and control programs.

A total of 801 participants attended the events which featured sectoral information sessions per quarter and a total of 8,646 views of these activities on social media were also recorded.

The Policy and Research Forums presented were as follows:

1. Launching of the 2022 Online Policy Research Forum Series on Drug Abuse Prevention and Control.
2. Featured Research Presentation: Assessing Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Through Psychological Functioning Well-Being and Life Satisfaction: Scales Adaption and Development.
3. Featured Policy Forum: DOH Memorandum No. 2020-064: Interim Guidelines for Infection Prevention and Control in Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Facilities.
4. Featured Policy Forum: Board Regulation No. 13, Series of 2018 (Establishment and Institutionalization of Drug-free Workplace Policies in all Government Offices, Including the Conduct of Authorized Drug Testing for Elective Local Officials and Appointive Public Officers and Other Purposes.)
5. ASEAN Special Forum Series: Integrating Media Information Literacy on Preventive Drug Education Program.
6. Featured Policy Forum: Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2018-01: Implementing Guidelines on the Functionality and Effectiveness of Local Anti-Drug Abuse Councils.

7. Featured Research Forum: Assessment of the Gaps and Challenges of Psychology Graduates in the Field of Drug Abuse Prevention and Control.
8. Featured Research Forum: Multi-site Evaluation of the Katatagan Kontra Drogen sa Komunidad (KKDK) as a
9. Jail-based Drug Rehabilitation Program in Quezon Province.

Studies and Researches

During the year, six (6) DDB research conducted/ongoing and three (3) featured studies were presented in the forum, as follows:

1. Review of Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Measures Undertaken During the Covid-19 Pandemic

The Philippine Government adopted a whole-of-nation approach in addressing the illegal drug problem with the issuance of Executive Order No. 66, Series of 2018, or The Philippine Anti-Illegal Drugs Strategy (PADS). With the unprecedented global crisis brought on by the COVID-19 Pandemic, restrictions were put in place by States, which created significant adjustments in the implementation of their respective priorities. Intending to review the adjustments in terms of the measures on drug abuse prevention and control priorities implemented by government agencies during the pandemic, this research covered in-depth questions to gather insights from the implementers of key government agencies in terms of the measures promulgated, compliance with the existing measures on drug abuse prevention and control, opportunities and gaps identified

during the adjustments, as well as the best practices implemented as they continue the implementation of their plans, programs, and activities.

This study utilized a mixed research method employing the phenomenological approach to extract the experiences of the focal persons from the PADS implementing agencies.

The participants were focal persons in national government agencies, including their attached agencies. Selected PADS focal persons and officials also participated in the conduct of the online-focused group discussion. The findings revealed the impact of COVID-19 on the implementation of drug supply and drug demand reduction priorities which also gave an overview of the experiences of the PADS focal persons in the implementation of their anti-drug programs, projects, and activities

2. Assessment of Best Practices of the National Anti-Drug Abuse Council Performance LGU Awardees: An Evidenced-Based Approach for Policy and Program Development

The Dangerous Drugs Board engaged People Dynamics, Inc. to conduct this project to gain significant insights to be utilized for policy and program enhancements from the best practices of the awarded local government units of the National Anti-Drug Abuse Council Awards.

Mixed-methodology research design and triangulation were employed in this study. Research design instruments were also developed and utilized for the assessment/ survey, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews.

A total of 75 respondents answered the online survey and 20 individuals participated in 5 online focus group discussions. All of the

six (6) major indicators of ADAC are rated by survey respondents with a high or very high extent of implementation. Both one-time and two-time ADAC awardees have best practices in place in their organizations, but two-time awardees have numerically higher scores than their one-time counterparts. Quality of implementation and practice classification has a very strong positive relationship with each other (Pearson $r=0.81$). Best practices include adherence to the law for ADAC program implementation; a multidisciplinary approach; long-term relations with partners and other ADACs; support of higher local chief executives; involvement of education- and faith-based organizations to aid in monitoring and evaluation.

3. Establishment and Institutionalization of Drug-free Workplace Policies in All Government Offices, Including the Conduct of Authorized Drug Testing for Elective and Appointive Officials and Other Purposes: An Assessment

This study reviewed the policy implementation of Board Regulation No. 13, Series of 2018 which provides the guidelines for the establishment and institutionalization of drug-free workplace policies in all government offices, including the conduct of authorized drug testing, as well as Section 4 of the Executive Order No. 66, Series of 2018, which mandates the implementation of drug-free workplace policy in accordance with the provisions of RA No. 9165.

Administrative Officers, Local Chief Executives and Officials, and the Committees that drafted their Agency's Drug-Free Workplace Policy participated in the Key Informant Interviews (KII) while selected personnel served as respondents of the online questionnaire. This study is currently underway.

4. Development and Validation of a Plastic-Based Microfluidic POCT Device (E-Tox) Used to Detect Intoxication with Selected New Psychoactive Substances and Pharmaceuticals (DDB Funded Project Conducted by the University of the Philippines – Manila) (Ongoing)

This is a collaborative effort of the UP-DARL, Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, College of Medicine, UP Manila, Department of Physical Sciences and Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences, UP Manila, and National Poison Management and Control Center – UP Philippine General Hospital.

The main objective of the study is to develop, optimize and validate a plastic-based microfluidic screening device for intoxication with selected New Psychoactive Substances such as cathinone, ketamine, synthetic cannabinoid, and other pharmaceuticals like paracetamol, salicylates, and isoniazid, which are commonly associated in poisoning based on the National Poison Management and Control Center (NPMCC) statistics.

Microfluidic devices have a proven record of being effective analytical devices, capable of controlling the flow of fluid samples (Lepowsky et al., 2017). Further, the research will demonstrate the applicability of microfluidics for presumptive tests of drugs in urine and potentially to other types of specimens, aiding them in the early diagnosis and management of poisoned patients. This device can also be optimized for other types of specimens such as seized products.

This project will benefit poison centers, hospitals, clinical laboratories, and privately practicing clinical toxicologists useful for early diagnosis and management of poisoned patients. The research will be completed in 2023.

5. Publication of the 2022 DDB Policy and Research Bulletin

Through the Policy Studies, Research, and Statistics Division (PSRSD), the Dangerous Drugs Board released the third issue of the DDB Policy and Research Bulletin series of 2022, highlighting the previously conducted scientific research and studies on the field of drug prevention

and control. It was also posted on the DDB website and can also be accessed through this link: tinyurl.com/psrdsd2023resources. This is an annual publication released every last quarter of the current year.

6. 2022 Preparatory Activities for the 2023 National Household Survey on the Patterns and Trends of Drug Abuse in The Philippines (completed)

Section 7 of Executive Order No. 66, Series of 2018 mandated the Dangerous Drugs Board to conduct a nationwide survey every three (3) years to determine the drug abuse prevalence in the country. The last survey was undertaken in 2019 and another one will be conducted in 2023.

The 2023 National Survey intends to determine the prevalence, patterns, and

trends of drug abuse. It also aims to determine the public perception of current anti-drug programs and projects of the government as well as drug-related problems experienced and actions taken by family members of Persons Who Use Drugs (PWUDs). Data-gathering activities shall be undertaken by the 1st semester of 2023.

7. Featured Research Presentation: Assessment of the Gaps and Challenges of Psychology Graduates in the Field of Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Programs: A Policy Review

Policy Studies Research and Statistics Division- Dangerous Drugs Board (2021)

By studying gaps and challenges of Psychology graduates in the field of drug abuse prevention and control, this research provides information on the present salary/compensation, job role, work demands, training needs as well as concerns of psychology graduates who are practicing related work in Psychology despite not having RA 10029 eligibility.

This could serve as the basis for developing a position paper to help accommodate Psychology graduates who are performing related tasks in Psychology to continue their service delivery in the field of drug abuse prevention and control, and not be hindered by the limitations of existing laws.

8. Featured Research Presentation: Assessing Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Through Psychological Functioning Well-Being and Life Satisfaction: Scales Adaption and Development

Argel B. Masanda and Maria Teresa O. Del Rosario (2022)

Drug abuse is one of the perennial global pandemics since the 1960s, and persons who use drugs (PWUDs) have been subjected to an array of treatment courses and rehabilitation efforts. This study underscored the adaptation and development of assessment tools to measure progress

among PWUDs undertaking drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation in terms of their mental well-being, life satisfaction, and overall psychological functioning.

The research aims to (1) develop assessment tools to measure the progress of persons who use drugs (PWUDs) undertaking drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation through psychological functioning, mental well-being life satisfaction, (2) adapt locally to the Life Satisfaction Scale and Warwick-Edinburgh Wellbeing scale and develop a scale that measures psychological functioning of the PWUDs, and (3) establish the psychometric properties of the said scales.

Data was gathered beginning with the establishment of a correlation between the original and translated scales by randomly selecting 100 college students and solicitation of consent, collation of the accomplished questionnaires, and conduct of focused group discussion with selected PWUDs for psychological functioning scale. While the internal consistency of the constructed psychological functioning scale was established by seeking permission and defining objectives and selection of participants, accomplishment, and collation of the questionnaires.

The findings show that the original English-language scale and the Filipino translated version of the Life Satisfaction Scale, as well as the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale, measure the same construct as they showed very strong

correlations. It further indicated that the Filipino translation of the researcher was adequate to what the original statements were intended for. More specifically, the original scale was written, and the translated version can be said to have fundamentally the same level of comprehension among the participants.

The Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Well-being Scale and the Life Satisfaction Scale, which garnered solid correlations and high-reliability indices, are adapted for local use here in The Philippines for use among PWUDs. Similarly, the constructed Psychological Functioning Scale with three subscales measuring affective, behavioral, and cognitive domains is a reliable measure among PWUDs for drug abuse treatment and rehabilitation.

Recommendations were to subject the three scales to a more in-depth statistical analysis and sophistication to further improve their psychometric properties and to explore the possible utility of the three adapted and developed scales among PWUDs advocating the same changes in a community-based setting. Further recommending that the existing policies on treatment and rehabilitation be more responsive to the needs of the clients.

9. Featured Research Presentation: Multi-site Evaluation of the Katatagan Kontra Droga sa Komunidad (KKDK) as a Jail-based Drug Rehabilitation Program in Quezon Province

Gino A. Cabrera and Noreen P. Echague (2020)

The Katatagan Kontra Droga sa Komunidad (KKDK) Program was a community-based drug intervention embarked on the local context and cultural adaptation of the existing evidence-based programs using the Map of Adaptation Process (MAP) that include (1) assessment of needs and risk factors, (2) designing the intervention based on cultural and contextual nuances, (3) training of facilitators and pre-testing of materials, (4) pilot-testing, and (5) implementation and continuous evaluation.

KDK, although it was initially designed as a community-based drug rehabilitation program, was implemented in the facilities of the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) as their facility- or institution-based rehabilitation program to further strengthen the restoration of persons deprived of liberty (PDLs), and remain to be their main intervention program under BJMP's aftercare services which aims to prepare PDLs with substance use disorder for their successful return to the community. It was once used as the institution's pre-release intervention. Currently, it serves as one of its development and welfare programs for PDLs involved in drug-related cases.

To gauge its effectiveness, a program evaluation was carried out through the use of the Context, Input, Process, and Product (CIPP) model that was designed in a mixed-methods – sequential explanatory research. This was done by collecting quantitative data

which were substantiated with qualitative data inferred through thematic content analysis. The paired-sample t-test revealed that the program has significantly lowered the completers' drug dependence and improved their situational confidence, well-being, and coping behaviors.

Behavioral and attitudinal improvements are two of the most visible results of rehabilitation, and they are equally true for KKDK. The KKDK modules contain proposed assessment tools for determining drug dependency, situational confidence, coping skills, stress level, and well-being. Another important sign is an improvement in the PDL's behavior as the program continues. The facilitators observed that at first, PDLs are hesitant to attend the program, but later, they spontaneously acquire a willingness to join the sessions, indicating a level of interest in the program and an intrinsic drive to undertake rehabilitation.

Both the KKDK completers and the jail personnel were involved in the program evaluation. Jail officers gave favorable impressions about the staff and training but argued to lessen their workload in order for them to focus on running the program. They have also seen the need to provide a conducive venue and allocate more budget to ensure better program implementation. Meanwhile, completers perceived that all objectives of the program were attained through the supporting and enabling elements

of the program that include its design and approach, the controlled environment in jails, social support, and the legal appreciation of the program that motivated them to fully participate in the program. Taken together, these factors constitute an effective rehabilitation as evident in the improved assessment scores, behavioral and attitudinal change, absence of cravings and relapse, goal-directed behaviors, successful community reintegration, and family reconciliation.

In conclusion, KKDK as a jail-based rehabilitation program is an effective treatment approach for PDLs with drug-related cases in the five BJMP facilities that piloted the said program in Quezon province. Its effectiveness is marked by the completers' absence of cravings for drugs, improved coping strategies, and behavioral and

attitudinal change. Apparent among the program completers are cognitive-behavioral practices, impulse control, spiritual and social connection, a strong desire for family reconciliation, and successful community reintegration.

Among the recommendations provided include the need to formulate a more structured policy for better implementation of the program, to include an after-care program during the completers' pre-release and community reintegration phases, to use the assessment tools of the KKDK program to have continuous feedback and evaluation mechanisms and to consider livelihood training, employment referrals, and industry linkages may also be included by the BJMP in conjunction with this program to ensure a more stable income and reduced tendencies for relapse among the completers.

Singapore



Examining Changing Roles of Narcotics Officers in Community Supervision

Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) Psychology Unit Teo Kah Shun, Yeo Kee Juan, Claudine Tan Supervisor: Salina Samion

Background

Traditionally, drug supervisees used to report for urine supervision mainly for detection purposes. However, evidence suggests that supervision has provided positive assistance to reduce drug misuse and reduced recidivism outcomes (Sirdifiel, 2020; Clark, 2015).

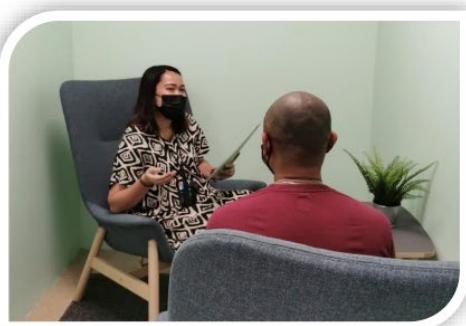
CNB piloted structured engagement with drug supervisees conducted by officers called Community Supervision Skills (CoSS) sessions to identify supervisees' residual needs and address them by imparting skills

and referring them to relevant community partners.

This requires officers to take on new roles and skills, and hence, it is important to understand supervision officers' experience in these roles and lessons in change management.

AIM

To understand the supervision officers' perception of their changing role and the organizational support in CNB's supervision process.



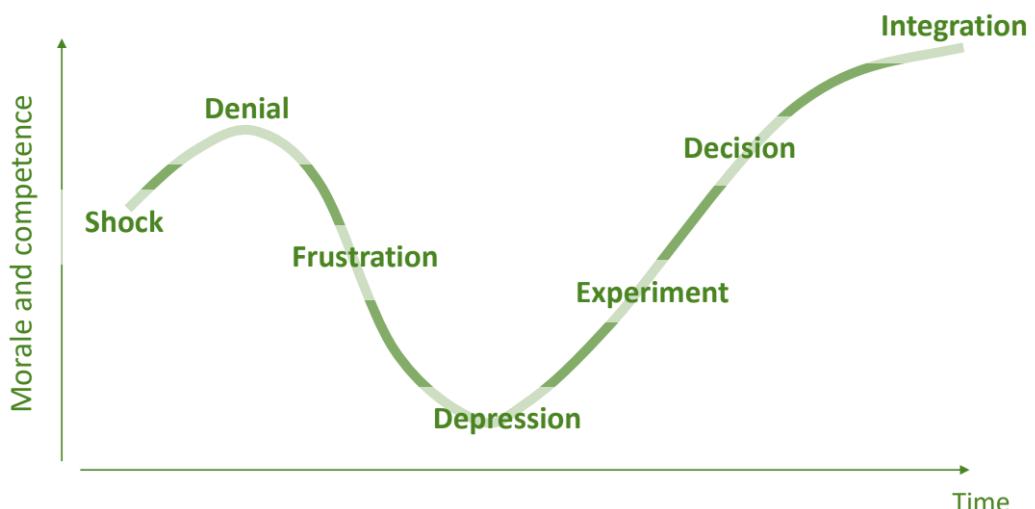
Supervision officers conducting CoSS sessions.

METHODOLOGY

We adopted the framework analysis via triangulation of multiple sources of retrospective qualitative data coded by three coders (to ensure inter-coder reliability) across timepoints from 2019 to 2021.

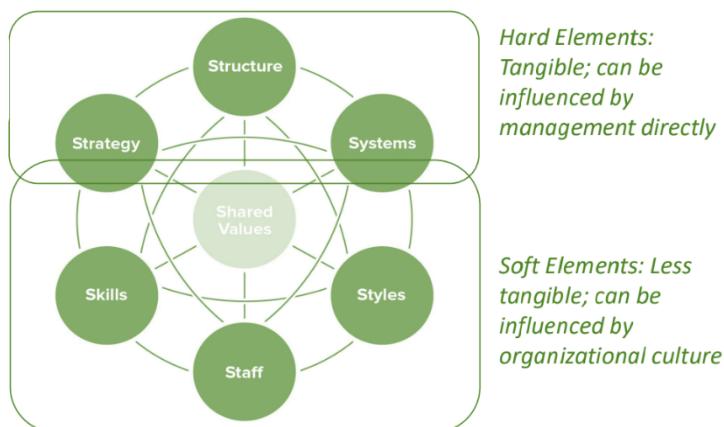
1. To understand officers' experience (Micro).

The Change Curve (adapted from Perlman and Takacs's phases of organizational change) – a framework that examines changes in their beliefs and emotions.

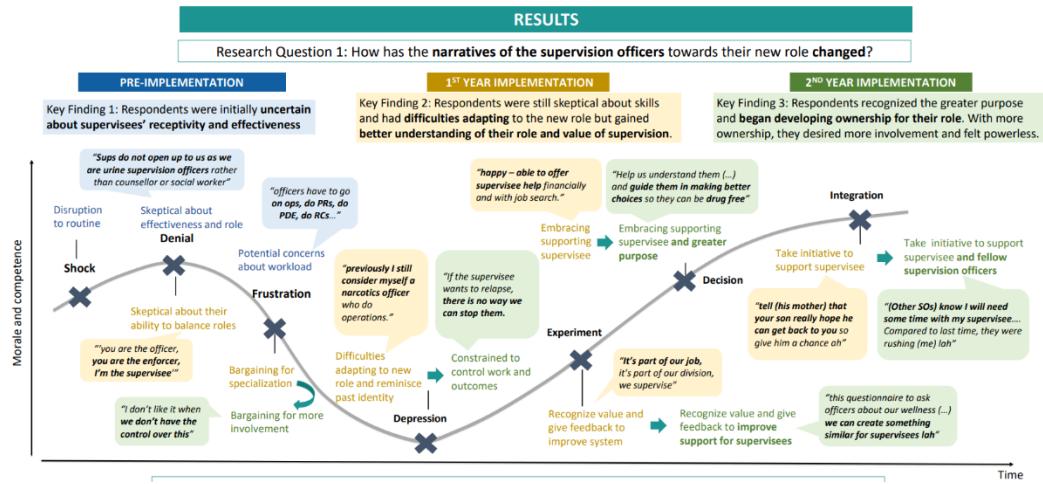


2. To examine processes that facilitate organizational change (Macro)

McKinsey's 7s model – a tool that analyzes elements in organizational design to achieve organizational change



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Research Question 2: What were the organizational support to facilitate supervision officers into their new role?

Challenges	Actions Taken	Outcome	
Delayed Process and Changing Instructions	Clearer Communication with Structure and prioritization	Faster and clearer processes	Structure
Insufficient logistical support	Provision of logistics	Sufficient logistics	
Difficulties managing supervisees with limited skills application	Training and coaching according to officers' challenges	Perceived better abilities to manage supervisees	Skills
Heavy workload and difficulties in staff management	Better caseload management and scheduling	Ongoing works on staff deployment and perceived better support by management	Systems
Worries about specialisation (e.g., progression)	Specialisation support by defining job functions	Ongoing works on staff progression	Staff
Officer-job mismatch	Selection by Interest	Motivated new officers	

IMPLICATIONS

1. Learning Points

Supervision officers embrace change over time by:

- Active Ownership of work and culture
- Positive shifts in Attitude
- Acceptance of their new identity

Application

- 1). Empower staff to take ownership of the new role
- 2). Support staff's skills that would promote positive change in attitudes
- 3). Continual engagement to enhance role acceptance

2. Challenges can be:

- Dynamic
- Persistent
- Interdependent

Application

- 1). Continual assessment of staff needs
- 2). Acknowledge difficult issues and provide interim support
- 3). Address needs with macro solutions that target root causes

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Thailand

Substances Use among Thai Teenagers, 2022

Source: Kanato M., Leyatikul P. & Wonguppa R. (2022). **Substances Use among Thai Teenagers, 2022.** ONCB Journal 39(1): 34-45.

ABSTRACT

The study of the epidemic situation of substance use is the cornerstone of solving the problem. This study is aimed to determine the proportion of Thai teenagers (aged 10-18 years) who used substances in 2022. It was a cross-sectional descriptive study using a three-stage stratified cluster sampling. A total of 4,666 samples were obtained. A self-administered questionnaire was used to collect data. Descriptive statistics and chi-square were used to analyze data.

Of Thai teenagers aged 10-18, 16.6% reported their experiences of ever using any substances. Of these, 13.1% used substances in the past three months. There were statistically significant differences between sexes and age groups. The popular substances used by teenagers were kratom (especially kratom liquid), sedatives, cannabis (especially dried cannabis), stimulants (especially YABA), depressants (especially tramadol and codeine), and hallucinogens, respectively. In addition, the behavior of using more than one substance simultaneously (polysubstance) was found. There was also the use of substances with alcohol, smoking/e-cigarettes, use of substances with alcohol, and smoking/e-cigarettes.

KEYWORDS: Substances abuse, Teenagers, Drugs use behavior

INTRODUCTION

Drug abuse is a significant problem that continuously affects society. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) estimated that 585,000 people worldwide died from related drug abuse (UNODC, 2019).

Pieces of evidence from the past 50,000 BC, the report on the using psychoactive substances in plants (Merlin, 2003) revealed that in Southeast Asia, substance abuse had been used for over 15,000 years (Sullivan et al., 2002). Later, substance abuse became popular for recreation.

Presumably, opium had become widespread in Thai society since the Sukhothai period. In the Ayutthaya period, opium problems began to appear since opium users did not earn a living. Thus, King Rama I issued the provision to punish the opium consumer in the Thief's Characters Act, B.E.1609 (1066,) stating the essential points that "... Article 81, anyone who consumes opium and/or sells opium must get hard punishment. According to royal power, the offender's assets must be completely forfeiture, and such an offender should be forced to patrol on the ground for three days and on a boat for another three days, followed by imprisonment until

abstaining from opium use. After abstinence, the offender's relatives must be fined before offender release ..." (Fine Arts Department, 1978). Later, various Kings enacted many other laws, such as the Act of Prohibition of the Purchase of Opium and Opium Smoking, Culasakaraj 1173 (B.E. 1811), the Decree of Prohibition of Opium Smoking, Culasakaraj 1181 (B.E. 1819), and the Announcement on the Prohibition of Opium Selling and the Opium Smoking Culasakaraj 1182 (B.E. 1820), the Act on Opium and Number Tattoo, Culasakaraj 1186 (B.E. 1824), the Opium Tax Act, B.E. 2414 (1871), the Morphine and Codeine Act, B.E. 2456 (1913), the Opium Act, B.E. 2464 (1921), and the Narcotics Act, B.E. 2465 (1922). After Thailand changed its administrative regime in 1932, the government still used legal measures. Substances were controlled through the enactment of the Cannabis Act, B.E. 2477 (1934), the Kratom Plant Act, B.E. 2486 (1943), the Sale of Drugs Act, B.E. 2493 (1950), the Revolutionary Council Announcement (No. 37), B.E. 2501 (1958), the Psychotropic Substances Act, B.E. 2518 (1975), and the Narcotics Act, B.E. 2522 (1979). Since then, the drug epidemic problem did not decrease, but the problem has increased. It is the transition from addictive plants to synthetic drugs and pharmaceutical abuse (Kanato et al., 2020).

Thailand has been affected by substance abuse problems for a long time. The common native addictive plants include opium, cannabis, and kratom. The first synthetic drug used by the population was heroin, first found before 1957 and spread extensively later (Poshyachinda, 1980). Amphetamine-type stimulants (amphetamine and methamphetamine) became widespread after 1967. Volatile substances (benzene, lacquers, and glue) appeared

after 1977. (Poshyachinda et al., 1999). New drugs were used after 1987, including ecstasy, ketamine, ICE (crystal methamphetamine), and cocaine (Poshyachinda et al., 1998). New psychoactive substances have recently been used (Wonguppa et al., 2018). However, official statistics show that methamphetamine users are the most significant drug users with access to treatment. Since cannabis and kratom are less dangerous than other drugs, only a few users require treatment (Kanato et al., 2022).

Currently, the term "**substances**" means any drugs or chemical solution of any kind that will affect the body and mind when intaking into the body. Four primary laws in Thailand mention substance: the Narcotics Act, B.E. 2522 (1979) (in line with the UN Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs, 1961), the Psychotropic Substances Act, B.E. 2559 (2016) (in line with the UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1971), the Decree on Prevention of Volatile Substances Use, B.E. 2533 (1990), and the Commodity Control Act, B.E. 2495 (1952). However, the term "substances" does not include legal substances, which are alcohol, cigarettes, and caffeinated beverages.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime reported that in 2020 there were about 284 million people, or 5.6 % of the global population aged 15-64, who used any drugs in the past year. Of these, 130,000 people died from drug addiction (UNODC, 2022). At the same time, the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report reported that over 580,000 ASEAN people received drug treatment, equivalent to 87.8 per hundred thousand population. Of these, one-third received drug treatment for amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS); the rest were

cannabis, opiates/opioids, and others (Kanato et al., 2022). The Administrative Committee of Substance Abuse Academic Network (ACSAN) conducted a national household survey to estimate the number of substance users in 2019. It was found that approximately 1,966,827 people, or 3.91% of the population aged 12-65 years, used any drugs in the past year (not including cigarettes and alcoholic beverages). In addition, youth aged 12-19 who used drugs in the past year account for 0.37% (Kanato et al., 2019).

Political movements since the end of 2018 continued to remove cannabis and kratom from the list of illicit drugs until they came into effect under the Narcotics Act (No. 8), B.E. 2564 (2021), unlocking "kratom" from the list of narcotics schedules five and the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on Specify the name of the narcotic drugs in schedule 5 B.E. 2565 (2022) in February 2022, considering only extracts from all parts of cannabis and hemp that contain more than 0.2 percent of THC by weight as narcotics. These caused kratom and cannabis to be used widely for all ages and sexes. In order to get a clearer picture of drug abuse, especially among vulnerable teenagers, it is necessary to study the proportion of teenagers who use various substances.

OBJECTIVES

To explore the proportion of teenagers who use substances, classified by drug types in each sex and age group.

METHOD

1. Research Design

This study uses a quantitative method designed as a cross-sectional survey. The survey was conducted to obtain the

approximate proportion of teenagers who use substances in Thailand.

2. Population and Samples

In this study, teenagers refer to the population aged 10-18 years. The study samples comprised 4,666 Thai teenagers from 10 provinces throughout the country. This sample size was calculated under the substances used prevalence in each age group and sex of youth between 1.98-5.46% (Kanato et al., 2020), with a 3% acceptable error, the design effect of 4.5, and the estimated involuntary at 10%. Considering the availability of resources (workforce and budget) with a given number of samples, the discrepancy in the regional and provincial analyses is huge (between 12%-22%). Therefore, the regional and provincial analyses were not included.

The sampling method uses stratified three-stage sampling.

1) The area of Thailand was stratified into ten zones according to the ONCB Region, namely the ONCB Bangkok, including 50 districts; the ONCB 1: central region, including nine provinces; the ONCB 2: eastern region, including eight provinces; the ONCB 3: lower northeastern region, including eight provinces, the ONCB 4: upper northeastern region including twelves provinces, the ONCB 5: upper north region, including eight provinces, the ONCB 6: lower northern region, including nine provinces, the ONCB 7: western region, including eight provinces, the ONCB 8: upper southern region, including seven provinces, and the ONCB 9: lower southern region, including seven provinces.

2) Systematic sampling was employed in each stratum; one province was selected from each region (Bangkok was selected systematically to get three districts)

3) Each province was stratified according to the four educational levels: elementary, junior high school, lower vocational, and high school levels.

4) Systematic sampling was used in elementary school, randomly selecting only ten upper elementary schools, two secondary schools, and two vocational schools.

5) Systematic sampling was used to get ten classrooms from grades 5-6 in target elementary schools, six from secondary schools, and three from lower vocational levels.

6) Each classroom asked participants from all samples to answer the questionnaire.

3. Tool and Data Collection

The study outcomes were as follows.

1) Time intervals of substance use in this study were divided into; substance use refers to having experienced the use of any substance in a lifetime, and current use refers to having experienced the use of any substance within three months before the survey date.

2) In this survey, the following substances were explored:

- 2.1) cannabis/hashish/cannabis oil
- 2.2) kratom leave/kratom liquid
- 2.3) depressants
(opium/morphine/heroin/codeine/tramadol/methadone)
- 2.4) stimulants
(YABA/ICE/ecstasy/cocaine)
- 2.5) hallucinogens
(volatile/ketamine/psilocybe mushroom)
- 2.6) sedatives
- 2.7) smoking/e-cigarettes
- 2.8) alcohol

The study tool was a questionnaire developed by the researcher. It is a self-administered questionnaire that four ISAN Substance Abuse Academic Network experts approved, with a CVI value of 0.94. A Cognitive test was conducted with 26 youths in the community. A reliability study was performed with 104 youths in the community, coming up with four-week Test-retest Reliability of 0.96 and Internal Consistency of 0.92.

Data collection was carried out during June and July 2022 as follows.

1) The research team sent a letter requesting consent from parents. Once the parents consented, the research team would proceed to the next step.

2) The research team explained the research objectives and asked for participation among the respondents to answer the questionnaire. The respondents were free to answer or not answer each question.

3) Only the consenting samples had to complete the questionnaire on the research team's iPad and return the iPad when they completed the questionnaire.

4. Data Management & Analysis

It proceeded as follows.

1) The adjustment was made to ensure that the database was appropriate.

2) The data quality was improved by checking for out-of-range, outlier, and missing data and adjusting those data accordingly.

3) The data analysis employed descriptive statistics, a 95% confidence interval, and Chi-square.

RESULTS

Teenagers in the sample were 51.2% female (1.3% perceived themselves as homosexual), with a mean age of 14.7

(standard deviation 2.52, median 16, interquartile range 4).

Thai teenagers who reported that they "had used any type of substances" were cumulative substance users, accounting for 16.55% of the population aged 10-18 years, with a 95% confidence interval between 15.48%-17.62%. Of those, 13.07% were still using substances in the past three months (95% confidence interval between 12.10%-14.04).

The most used substances by teenagers were kratom, especially kratom liquid, which accounted for 6.94%, followed by sedatives such as Erimin 5, Diazepam, etc., which accounted for 6.22%. Cannabis, particularly dried cannabis, accounted for 6.13%, while 4.50% were stimulants, especially YABA, ICE, and ecstasy. The rest

were depressants, especially tramadol and codeine, which accounted for 2.66%, and hallucinogens (volatile and ketamine), which accounted for 2.31%. The most used drugs in the past three months were kratom, followed by cannabis, sedatives, stimulants, depressants, and hallucinogens (Table 1). There was a statistically significant difference between gender and age groups ($p<0.0001$). 2.40% of teenagers used more than one substance simultaneously (polysubstance), with 1.67% still using polysubstance in the past three months. Notably, 9.39% of teenagers used drugs and alcohol (2.36 % used stimulants and alcoholic beverages), 6.04% used drugs with smoking or e-cigarettes, and 5.27% used drugs with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes.

Table 1 The Proportion of Teenagers who Used Substances

Age 10-18 Years	Ever Used		Past 3 Months Used	
	Type of Substances Used	Percent	95% C.I.	Percent
Cannabis	6.13%****	(5.44, 6.82)	4.2%***	(3.62, 4.78)
Kratom	6.94%****	(6.21, 7.67)	5.96%****	(5.28, 6.64)
Stimulants (YABA/ICE/ecstasy)	4.5%****	(3.91, 5.09)	3.34%****	(2.82, 3.86)
Depressants (codeine/tramadol)	2.66%*	(2.20, 3.12)	1.5%****	(1.15, 1.85)
Hallucinogens (ketamine/volatile)	2.31%****	(1.88, 2.74)	1.41%***	(1.07, 1.75)
Sedatives	6.22%****	(5.53, 6.91)	3.73%***	(3.19, 4.27)
Polysubstance	2.40%	(1.96, 2.84)	1.67%	(1.30, 2.04)
Any substance	16.55%****	(15.48, 17.62)	13.07%****	(12.10, 14.04)
Alcohol	28.08%****	(26.79, 29.37)	21.77%****	(20.59, 22.95)
Substance and alcohol	9.39%****	(8.55, 10.23)	6.39%****	(5.69, 7.09)
Smoking/e-cigarettes	10.5%****	(9.62, 11.38)	6.00%****	(5.32, 6.68)
Substance and Smoking/e-cigarettes	6.04%****	(5.36, 6.72)	3.34%****	(2.82, 3.86)
Substance, alcohol, and Smoking/e-cigarettes	5.27%****	(4.63, 5.91)	3.04%****	(2.55, 3.53)

Remark: Age group comparison, statistical significance found

* $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$, *** $p<0.001$, **** $p<0.0001$

When dividing the age groups into 10-12 years old (teenagers studying in upper elementary school), 13-15 years old (teenagers studying in junior high school), and 16-18 years old (teenagers studying in high school and lower vocational education), statistical significance was found (Table 1). When comparing sex in each age group, the results were as follows.

Teenagers aged 10-12 who reported that they "had used any type of substances" accounted for 7.57% (11.72% were males and 3.24% were females), and 5.81% of them used drugs in the past three months (8.97% were male and 2.52% were female).

Cannabis was the most popular substance used by teenagers aged 10-12, accounting for 3.17%, followed by sedatives, stimulants, kratom, and depressants. The most commonly used drugs in the past three months were cannabis, followed by sedatives, stimulants, kratom, depressants, and hallucinogens. When classified by gender, it was found that males used sedatives the most, 4.48%, followed by

cannabis and stimulants, 4.14% equally, depressants 3.45%, kratom 2.07%, and hallucinogens, 1.03%. Substances used during the past three months were primarily sedatives 3.45%, followed by cannabis and stimulants 2.76% equally. Females used cannabis 2.16%, and kratom 1.80%, but they had never used other substances. During the past three months, 1.80% used cannabis, and 1.44% used kratom (Table 2). 1.76% of teenagers aged 10-12 years used polysubstance. The users of polysubstance were all males. They continued to use polysubstance in the past three months, 1.06%. In addition, 3.52% of this group used substances together with alcohol, and 1.06% used substances together with smoking or e-cigarettes. Moreover, 0.70% used substances together with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes. Notably, females aged 10-12 started drinking alcohol and using smoking/e-cigarettes at this age and reported continuing their drinking and smoking/e-cigarettes in the past three months.

Table 2 The Proportion of Teenagers Aged 10-12 Years who Used Substances

Age 10-12 Years	Ever Used			Past 3 Months Used		
	Type of Substances Used	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Cannabis	4.14%	2.16%	3.17%	2.76%	1.80%	2.29%
Kratom	2.07%	1.80%	1.94%	1.38%	1.44%	1.41%
Stimulants (YABA/ICE/ecstasy)	4.14%	0.00%	2.11%	2.76%	0.00%	1.41%
Depressants (codeine/tramadol)	3.45%	0.00%	1.76%	0.69%	0.00%	0.35%
Hallucinogens (ketamine/volatile)	1.03%	0.00%	0.53%	0.34%	0.00%	0.18%
Sedatives	4.48%	0.00%	2.29%	3.45%	0.00%	1.76%
Polydrugs	3.45%	0.00%	1.76%	2.07%	0.00%	1.06%
Any substance	11.72%	3.24%	7.57%	8.97%	2.52%	5.81%
Alcohol	15.17%	6.47%	10.92%	11.03%	4.32%	7.75%
Substance and alcohol	5.52%	1.44%	3.52%	3.45%	1.44%	2.46%
Smoking/e-cigarette	3.45%	3.24%	3.35%	2.41%	2.16%	2.29%
Substance and e-cigarette	2.07%	0.00%	1.06%	1.72%	0.00%	0.88%
Substance, alcohol, and e-cigarette	1.38%	0.00%	0.70%	1.03%	0.00%	0.53%

Of teenagers aged 13-15 years, 16.70% (20.36% were males and 13.83% were females) reported that they had used any substances, with 13.29% of them using drugs in the past three months (16.29% were male and 12.06% were female).

Kratom was the most commonly used substance by teenagers aged 13-15, accounting for 8%; sedatives and cannabis accounted for more than 5% each, stimulants accounted for more than 4%, and other substances accounted for more than 2%. The most used substances in the past three months were kratom, followed by cannabis, sedatives, stimulants, hallucinogens, and depressants. When classified by sex, it was found that males most used kratom (over 9%), followed by sedatives and cannabis (over 6% each), stimulants, depressants, and hallucinogens, respectively. In the past three months, kratom was used most (over 7%), cannabis (5%), sedatives, and stimulants were used over 4%. Females used kratom (over 7%), sedatives and cannabis (over 4% each),

stimulants (over 3%), and other substances (over 1%). In the past three months, the females used kratom (over 6%), cannabis and sedative (over 3% each), and stimulants (nearly 3%) (Table 3).

Two percent of the youth age group 13-15 had used more than one substance simultaneously (3.6% were males, and less than 1% were females), while 1.6% continued to use polysubstance in the past three months. More than 8% of teenagers had used substances and alcohol, and nearly 5% had used substances combined with smoking or e-cigarettes. Nearly 5% had used substances in combination with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes. More than 1 in 3 males and more than 1 in 5 females drank alcohol. Females were more likely to use substances with alcohol than males. More than 10% of males used smoking/e-cigarettes. The proportion of those who used substances with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes was not different among males and females. In the past three months, females used substances with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes more than males.

Table 3 The Proportion of Teenagers Aged 13-15 Years who Used Substances

Age 13-15 Years	Ever Used			Past 3 Months Used		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Cannabis	6.33%	4.26%	5.17%	4.98%	3.19%	3.98%
Kratom	9.05%	7.09%	7.95%	7.24%	6.03%	6.56%
Stimulants (YABA/ICE/ecstasy)	4.98%	3.55%	4.17%	4.07%	2.84%	3.38%
Depressants (codeine/tramadol)	3.62%	1.06%	2.19%	1.36%	0.35%	0.80%
Hallucinogens (ketamine/volatile)	3.62%	1.77%	2.58%	1.81%	1.42%	1.59%
Sedatives	6.79%	4.61%	5.57%	4.52%	3.19%	3.78%
polydrugs	3.62%	0.71%	1.99%	3.17%	0.35%	1.59%
Any substance	20.36%	13.83%	16.70%	16.29%	12.06%	13.92%
Alcohol	32.13%	22.34%	26.64%	23.98%	13.83%	18.29%
Substance and alcohol	8.14%	9.22%	8.75%	4.07%	5.67%	4.97%
Smoking/e-cigarette	10.86%	8.51%	9.54%	6.79%	5.32%	5.96%
Substance and e-cigarette	4.98%	4.96%	4.97%	2.26%	3.55%	2.98%
Substance, alcohol, and e-cigarette	4.98%	4.96%	4.97%	2.26%	3.19%	2.78%

Teenagers aged 16-18 who reported that they “had used any type of substances” were one in five (25.68% were males and 15.43% were females), with 16.01% using any substances continuously in the past three months (19.30% were males and 12.76% were females).

Kratom and sedatives were used for more than 8% each by teenagers aged 16-18 years, followed by cannabis (7.8%), stimulants (5.7%), and depressants and hallucinogens (over 3% each). The most used substances in the past three months were kratom, followed by cannabis, sedatives, stimulants, depressants, and hallucinogens. When classified by sex, it was found that males used kratom and cannabis (over 10% each), followed by sedatives (over 9%), stimulants (over 7%), and depressants and hallucinogens (over 3% each). In the past three months, males still used kratom for over 8%, cannabis for more than 6%, and sedatives and stimulants for more than 5% each. In comparison,

females used kratom and sedatives 7% each, cannabis more than 5%, stimulants more than 3%, and other substances over 2%. During the past three months, they also used more than 7% of kratom, more than 3% of cannabis, sedatives, and 3% of stimulants (Table 4).

2.8% of teenagers aged 16-18 used polysubstance (4.8% were males and 1% were females), and 2% continued to use polysubstance in the past three months. Notably, more than 40% of males and more than 33% of females drank alcohol. Over 10% of the group used smoking/e-cigarettes. More than 10% of teenagers used substances along with alcohol, more than 8% used substances along with smoking or e-cigarettes, and 7.5% used substances along with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes. Over the past three months, more than 8% used substances with alcohol, 4.6% with smoking or e-cigarettes, and 4.3% with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes.

Table 4 The Proportion of Teenagers Aged 16-18 Years who Used Substances

Age 16-18 Years	Ever Used			Past 3 Months Used		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Cannabis	10.05%	5.67%	7.84%	6.38%	3.94%	5.15%
Kratom	10.21%	7.40%	8.80%	8.29%	7.24%	7.77%
Stimulants (YABA/ICE/ecstasy)	7.66%	3.78%	5.71%	5.42%	2.99%	4.20%
Depressants (codeine/tramadol)	3.67%	2.83%	3.25%	2.39%	2.20%	2.30%
Hallucinogens (ketamine/volatile)	3.67%	2.36%	3.01%	2.07%	1.73%	1.90%
Sedatives	9.57%	6.93%	8.24%	5.74%	3.46%	4.60%
polydrugs	4.78%	0.94%	2.85%	3.35%	0.63%	1.98%
Any substance	25.68%	15.43%	20.52%	19.30%	12.76%	16.01%
Alcohol	39.39%	33.39%	36.37%	33.49%	25.51%	29.48%
Substance and alcohol	16.43%	8.19%	12.28%	11.80%	5.67%	8.72%
Smoking/e-cigarette	15.31%	12.91%	14.10%	8.45%	6.93%	7.69%
Substance and e-cigarette	11.64%	5.83%	8.72%	6.06%	3.15%	4.60%
Substance, alcohol, and e-cigarette	10.69%	4.25%	7.45%	5.74%	2.83%	4.28%

Substance abuse behavior that must be under surveillance is substance use in the past three months. It was found that there were 13% of the group used substances, with 6% using kratom (6.33% were males, 5.61% were females), over 4% using cannabis (5.18% were males, 3.26% were females, statistically significant difference), over 3% using stimulants (4.48% were males, 2.26% were females, a statistically significant difference) and over

3% using sedatives (4.92% were males, 2.59% were females, a statistically significant difference), and over 1% used depressants and hallucinogens.

1.67% of teenagers used polysubstance in the past three months (3% were males, 0.4% were females, a statistically significant difference). In addition, some teenagers used stimulants and alcohol during the past three months, accounting for 1.54%, especially males, for 2.64%, which was risky to develop psychological symptoms and violence.

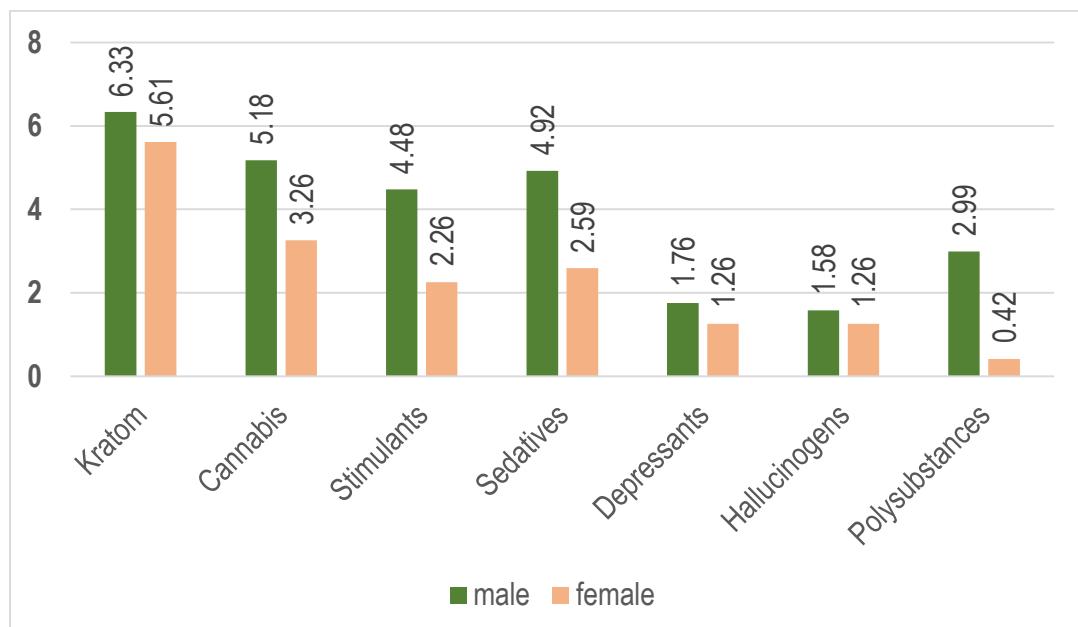


Figure 1: Percentage of Teenagers Using Substances in the Past 3 Months Classified by Sex

DISCUSSION

Although sample size and probability sampling in surveys took into account the representation (representativeness) and the sufficiency of power (statistical power) in data analysis, with ethical limitations in research that had to take into account the independence of answering questions, having enough time,

and the willingness to answer questions either individual item or in the whole questionnaire. There might be some discrepancies; for example, in some age groups, the response rate between sex was not equal. However, it was found that the response rate was higher than 90% in all age groups and both sex, making the results of the study less inaccurate.

In this survey, 16.5% of Thai teenagers (10-18 years) reported using substances, with 21.1% males and 12.2% females. This figure was more than double the latest household survey in 2019. In 2019, the results of the survey showed that 7.5% of the Thai population (aged 12-65 years

old) had used substances, 10.9% of which were used by males and 4.1% by females (Kanato et al., 2019). When classifying the type of substances, it was found that the proportion of teenagers who used substances in 2022 was higher than in 2019 for all drug types.

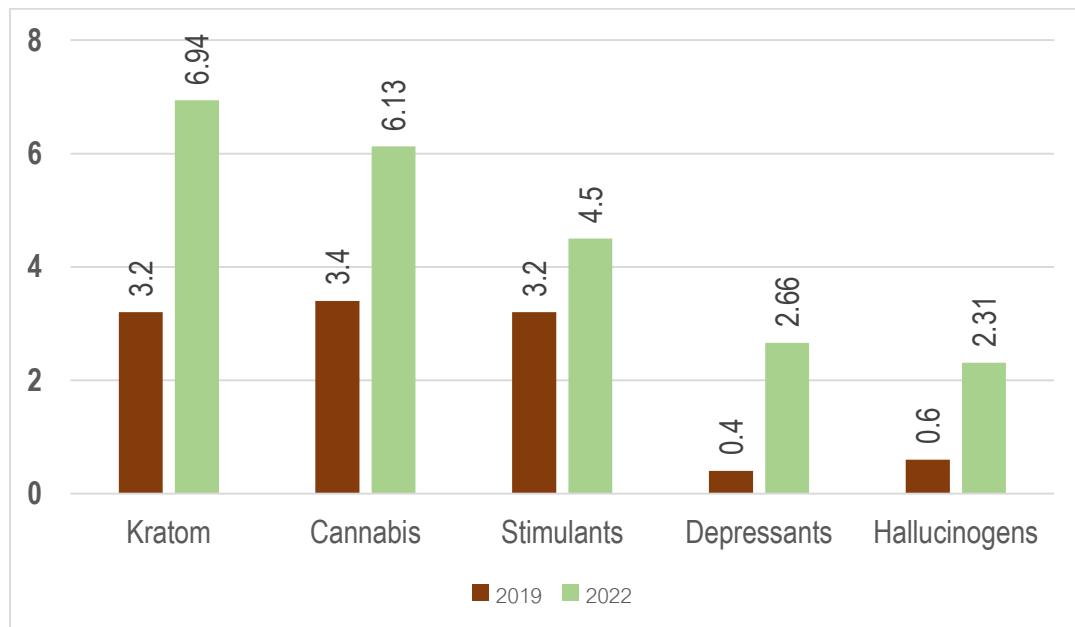


Figure 2 Percentage of Various Substance Users in 2019 and 2022

Thailand has enforced the Narcotics Act (No. 8), B.E.2564 (2021), unlocking “kratom” from the list of narcotic drugs in schedules five and the Notification of the Ministry of Public Health on Specify the name of the narcotic drugs in schedules five B.E.2565 (2022), considering only extracts from all parts of cannabis and hemp containing more than 0.2 % of THC by weight as narcotic drugs.

Policy changes in medical cannabis resulted in more than ten times the number of cannabis users during the last three years (past 30 days users) comparing the years

2016 and 2019 (Kanato et al., 2020). When cannabis was removed from the list of narcotic drugs in 2022, the number of youth under 18 years of age who had used cannabis in the past three months increased by 60%, and there was also a 1-fold decrease in cannabis literacy (Kanato et al., 2022).

The group that should be under surveillance is those who used drugs in the past three months, which 13% of them using any substance. Of these, they were using cannabis (4.2 %), kratom (6 %), stimulants (3.3%), and sedatives (3.7%). The number

of drug users increased in all drugs from various size estimation studies, especially ICE, which increased more than 160 times over the past 12 years, followed by ketamine, heroin, and kratom. For kratom liquid, it increased more than ten times, and for other drugs increased 10-15 times. (Administrative Committee of Substances Abuse Academic Network 2007, Administrative Committee of Substances Abuse Academic Network 2011, Kanato et al., 2016, Kanato et al., 2019)

Studies showed that policy changes caused an increase in cannabis use prevalence among the youths. This study found that 4.2% of adolescents had used cannabis in the past three months, higher than the 2.3% rate of cannabis use before delisting cannabis in 2016 (Kanato et al., 2020). The latest nationwide household survey in 2019 reported that Thai people aged 12-19 years who had used cannabis in the past year accounted for 0.12%, while the use in the past month accounted for 0.06% (Kanato et al., 2019).

The study's findings were consistent with a study of the cannabis situation after the legal amendment, which compared people from the same generation (Birth Cohort). This study was longitudinal. It compared the proportions of cannabis use among three generations (elementary school, junior high school, and high school/junior vocational education) in 3 time periods (cannabis is an illegal drug period, medical cannabis period, and legalized cannabis period). According to Figure 4, people in the upper elementary school generation used cannabis for 1.15 % during the period when cannabis was illegal. When the government announced the use of medical cannabis, the rate of cannabis use in this population rose to 1.94 %. After the

legalization of cannabis, the rate of cannabis use rose 2.5 times from the medical cannabis period to 5.01% or a 4.4-fold increase from the illegal cannabis period. This pattern is similar to the cohort of high school/junior vocational students, who used cannabis for 2.92 percent during the illicit cannabis period. When the government declared the use of medical cannabis, the rate of cannabis use in this group rose to 4.01 %. When the government legalized cannabis, the rate of cannabis use doubled from the medical cannabis period to 2.96%, or an increase of 2.7 times from the illegal cannabis period. However, those in the junior high school generation used cannabis 1.17% during the illegal cannabis period. When the government announced the use of medical cannabis, the rate of cannabis use in this group increased 2.6 times to 3.05 %. During the legalized cannabis period, the rate of cannabis use was more than doubled from the medical cannabis period to 6.45 percent or a 5.5-fold increase from the illicit cannabis period. (Kanato et al., 2022)

CONCLUSION

There were 16.55% of 10-18 years old Thai teenagers who reported that they had used any substances, with 13.07% continuing to use substances in the past three months.

The most substance used by teenagers was kratom (especially kratom liquid), followed by sedatives, cannabis (especially dried cannabis), stimulants (especially YABA), depressants (especially tramadol and codeine), and hallucinogens. The most used substance in the past three months was kratom, followed by cannabis, sedatives, stimulants, depressants, and hallucinogens. There were statistically significant differences between sexes and

age groups. In addition, there was also a behavior of using polysubstance. There were substances used combined with alcohol, substances used with smoking/e-cigarettes, and substances used with alcohol and smoking/e-cigarettes.

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Risks Associated with Substance Abuse among the Youth in Schools

Source: Leyatikul P., Wonguppa R. & Kanato M., (2022). **Risks Associated with Substance Abuse among the Youth in Schools**. ONCB Journal 39(1): 46-55.

ABSTRACT

This survey research aimed to test the association between risk behaviors and substance abuse among the youth in schools in Nakhon Ratchasima province. The sample consisted of 2,497 students from 3 private institutions varying from elementary to higher education. Questionnaires collected data in the academic year 2019. Descriptive statistics analyzed data: percentage, mean, and standard deviation. Risk factors were analyzed with Chi-Square, Odds Ratio, and 95% confidence interval.

The study results showed that 55.2 percent of the sample was female. The average age was 17.7 years old. 8.6 percent of the sample had ever used substances. The vocational level was the highest proportion accounting for 15.1 percent. The age of first use was less than 15 years at all levels of education. Regarding substance abuse, most substance users have used cannabis at 56.6 percent. Analysis of the likelihood of substance abuse experiences with risky behavior, It was found that substance abuse causing the risk of fighting ($OR=4.2$, $95\%CI=2.9-5.9$), fighting hospitalization ($OR=7.0$, $95\%CI=4.2-11.6$), physical/health problems ($OR=1.7$, $95\%CI=1.3-2.4$), learning/emotional disabilities ($OR=1.9$, $95\%CI=1.4-2.5$), and hopelessness depression ($OR=1.7$, $95\% CI=1.3-2.9$), self-harm ($OR=3.4$, $95\%CI=2.5-4.7$), suicidal idea ($OR=3.4$, $95\%CI=2.2-5.0$).

Substance abuse among the youth may result in physical and mental health problems, causing physical/health impairments that affect growth and quality of life. There should be a survey and surveillance of the problem of risky behaviors from substance abuse among youth to know the situation and to track the changes and trends of the problem to lead to preventive measures.

Keywords: Risk behaviors, Substance abuse, Adolescence

Vongchavalitkul University financially supported the present study.

INTRODUCTION

Substance abuse problems significantly impact social, economic, political, medical, and public health. Problems from substance abuse have increased in size and severity. It is spread to the community. Although all sectors work together to suppress and solve substance abuse problems seriously, the problem still exists in Thailand. It can be seen from the arrest of traffickers and users through various media. The consequences of substance abuse problems are complex and dynamic, which is challenging to manage the corrective actions. Youth are the primary targets for drug traffickers because they are fragile and have a high risk of living in society. The risky behavior of young people can lead to substance abuse and other consequences. The most popular substance used among youth were cannabis, methamphetamine, kratom or kratom liquid mixed with other substances, and volatiles (Kanato et al., 2020). Among students, males used substances in higher proportion than females, and higher according to educational year (Bureau of Non-Communicable Diseases, 2011). Children who started drinking alcohol at a young age were more likely to have behavioral problems, leading to other substance abuse (Brener & Collins, 1998). In addition, it manifests in inappropriate sexual behavior, violence, accident, and other risky behaviors. These can be seen in unsafe driving, aggressive behavior, fighting/brawls and assaults, theft, depressive mood, suicidal ideation, etc. (National Institute on

Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, 2006). A study found that 25.8% of students had ever smoked, and 11.7% of students currently smoked. Smoking among male students was higher than that of female students, and the prevalence of smoking increased by the educational year. One-third of the smoker students smoked with other substances in their cigarettes, and 44.8% smoked when drinking alcoholic beverages (Phitayarangsarit et al., 2012).

Effects of health risk behaviors are associated with drug use or substance abuse, which increases risky behaviors in children and young people. Efforts are being made to find effective measures to prevent risky behaviors and substance use among young people. This requires information from ongoing research studies since health risk behaviors, and drug use among adolescents are constantly changing. A single study of the size and nature of the problem yields limited results. There should be an annual survey of young people to understand, predict the changing trend, and keep pace with the situational problem (DeJong et al., 1998). The international studies of violent behavior in students and adolescents receive attention and conduct ongoing data collection studies such as Monitoring the Future, which focuses on monitoring trends in risk behavior changes and substance abuse among adolescents and young adults; The Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), which studies both health-risk behaviors in areas such as risky behaviors and violence, smoking, alcohol, and drug use. In Thailand,

although the problem of risky behavior in adolescents and substance abuse is getting attention and there are studies, there is no ongoing action to know the problem condition and to be information for monitoring the trends of changes in health risk behavior problems related to substance use, and a guideline for monitoring changes. These are leading to guidelines for preventing problems and impacts that occur in the future.

OBJECTIVES

1. To describe the types of substances young people use in educational institutions.
2. To explore the consequences of substance abuse on risky behavior among youth in educational institutions.

METHODS

Research Design

This is a Cross-sectional survey study.

Population and Samples

The study population is students in private educational institutions varying from primary to higher education.

The educational institution's selection criteria are as follows;

- 1) to be a private educational institute/private educational institution located in the area of Nakhon Ratchasima Province where there are students in primary, secondary, vocational, and higher education in the academic year 2019, and

2) to be a private educational institute that voluntarily participated in this study.

The target population is students in 3 selected private educational institutes, varying from primary to higher education, who must be able to read and write on their own, registering for various levels in the academic year 2019, totaling 4,291 students consisting of; general education level 868 students, vocational level 1,100 students, and higher education level 2,323 undergraduate students.

The sample is the target population who voluntarily participates in the study.

At the general education level, the researchers clarified and asked for parental consent for students under 18 years old through the postal service (putting a blank envelope with stamps attached to the consent letter). The consent form was asked to be returned within one week. Parents who did not respond within the given timeframe were counted as not consenting to participate in the study. A total of 629 parents consented to the study.

The researchers sent the questionnaire with a consent form to the students consisting of the following;

- 1) all 18 years old and above, and
- 2) students under 18 years of age only with their parent's consent.

The researchers enclosed a blank, stamped envelope attached to the consent request and a blank questionnaire. The students were asked to return the questionnaire with informed consent within one week. Both the consent form and filled-

out the questionnaire were asked to return within one week. Students who responded after the given timeframe or responded but did not have both the questionnaire and the consent will be counted as not voluntarily participating in this study. It was found that there were 2,497 students participated in the study, consisting of; general education level 629 students, vocational level 791 students, and higher education level 1,077 undergraduate students.

Tool Development

The data collection tool in this study is a self-administered questionnaire on substance abuse and health behaviors of youth in educational institutions developed by the researchers. The draft questionnaire was considered by three experts from the ISAN Substance Abuse Academic Network, Khon Kaen University. Content validity was analyzed using the consistency index between the questionnaire and the research objectives (Item-Objective Congruence Index : IOC). The researchers selected only a question with a congruence index of 0.5 or higher and adjusted it for suitability.

Data Collection

At the beginning of the 2019 academic year, the researchers coordinated with responsible persons in 3 schools/institutions and asked permission to collect data using a questionnaire. The students were asked to read and write the questionnaire answers. The researcher gathered all the questionnaires, checked them, and recorded the data.

Data Analysis

- Descriptive statistics showed the characteristics of the sample, presented in the form of basic statistical tables: frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation, median, and range.

- Inferential statistics explored the relationship of risk behaviors with substance use by calculating Chi-Square, Odds Ratio (OR), and 95% confidence interval.

RESULTS

Most of the samples were female at 55.2 percent. The age average was 17.71 years ($SD = 3.94$). 44.1 percent lived with their parents. The average monthly cost was 4,267.24 baht ($SD = 3,634.79$) (Table 1).

Table 1 Characteristics of the student's samples.

Characteristics	Primary	Secondary	Vocational	Higher Ed.	Total
	n=271	n=358	n=791	n=1,077	n=2,497
1 Sex:					
⌚ Male	48.0	49.2	68.1	25.6	44.8
⌚ Female	52.0	50.8	31.9	74.4	55.2
2 Age (years):					
mean	10.48	14.07	17.71	20.74	17.71
±sd	± 0.87	± 1.59	± 1.83	± 2.39	± 3.94
3 Living with:					
⌚ Alone	0.4	0.8	22.3	55.6	31.2
⌚ Parents	83.3	81.6	47.2	19.5	44.1
⌚ Friend	-	0.3	10.4	13.9	9.3
⌚ Relatives	15.6	17.3	19.5	10.3	14.8
⌚ Others	0.7	-	0.6	0.7	0.6
4 Monthly expense (Baht):					
mean	1,569.41	2,290.36	4,029.92	5,753.91	4,267.24
±sd	± 3,094.6	± 1,812.7	± 3,232.6	± 3,699.3	± 3,634.8

Regarding the experience of substance use, 8.6 percent of the samples had ever used substances. The vocational level was the highest proportion of substance abuse at 15.1 percent. The age of first use was under 15 years at all levels of education.

Type of substances, it was found that cannabis was the most commonly used substance, accounting for 56.6 percent, followed by Yaba (methamphetamine tablet) at 27.9 percent and Ice (methamphetamine crystal) at 21.1 percent. Kratom/boiled Kratom mixed with other substances was 16.6 percent. Ketamine was 14.8 percent, while ecstasy was 10.2 percent. The rest was volatile at 2.6 percent. Considering the level of education, among those with a higher education level, cannabis was the

highest proportion, accounting for 75.7 percent, followed by 37.9 percent Yaba, 32.8 percent Ice, and 26.2 percent ketamine. On the vocational level, it was found that cannabis was the highest proportion at 43.7 percent, followed by Yaba at 22.7 percent. The proportion of using Kratom/boiled Kratom mixed with other substances similar to Ice was 16.8 and 16.0 percent. At the general level, it was found that cannabis was the highest proportion of used, at 68.8 percent, which is higher than the proportion at the vocational level. The rest were Yaba at 25.0 percent, Ice, and Kratom/boiled Kratom mixed with other substances, which were the same proportion at 12.5 percent. It should be noted that substance abuse among elementary students was not found in this study.

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Table 2 Substance abuse is classified by level of education.

Substance abuse	Primary	Secondary	Vocational	Higher Ed.	Total
	n=271	n=358	n=791	n=1077	n=2,497
1. Experience on any substance:					
⌚Ever used	-	4.5	15.1	7.4	8.6
⌚Never	100	95.5	84.9	92.6	91.4
2. Age of first use:					
⌚ 14 years and lower	-	56.3	37.8	18.3	31.6
⌚ 15 years	-	37.5	37.8	25.4	32.8
⌚ 16 years	-	6.3	7.8	11.3	9.0
⌚ 17 years	-	-	8.9	23.9	14.1
⌚ 18 years	-	-	5.6	11.3	7.3
⌚ 20 years and above	-	-	2.2	9.9	5.1
3. Type of substance used:					
- Cannabis					
Lifetime	-	68.8	43.7	75.7	56.6
Within 12 months	-	31.3	11.8	23.1	17
- Yaba (methamphetamine tablet)					
Lifetime	-	25.0	22.7	37.9	27.9
Within 12 months	-	18.8	4.2	6.3	6.1
- Ice (methamphetamine crystal)					
Lifetime	-	12.5	16.0	32.8	21.1
Within 12 months	-	6.3	2.5	6.3	4.0
- Ketamine					
Lifetime	-	6.3	10.1	26.2	14.8
Within 12 months	-	-	3.4	8.2	4.6
- Kratom/boiled Kratom mixed with other substances					
Lifetime	-	12.5	16.8	17.2	16.6
Within 12 months	-	6.3	3.4	-	2.5
- Ecstasy					
Lifetime	-	6.2	5.9	19.7	10.2
Within 12 months	-	6.3	3.4	6.6	4.6
- Volatile Substances					
Lifetime	-	-	3.4	1.7	2.6
Within 12 months	-	-	0.8	-	0.5

Considering variables associated with substance abuse experience, it was found that 11.5 percent of youths who had ever used drugs had experience with working and earning income. In comparison, 23.6 percent had ever been suspended from school. For violence and brawls experience, 29.9 percent had ever been carrying weapons, 23.8 percent had experienced fighting, 17.9 percent had ever been fighting at school, and 37.1 percent had experienced fighting that had to be hospitalized.

For health, 12.4 percent had physical/health disabilities, 12.2 percent had

learning/emotional control disabilities, and 11.7 percent had hopelessness/depression. 21.1 percent had thoughts of suicide ever, and 19.3 percent experienced self-harm. For risk behavior, 34.1 percent smoked cigarettes, 34.9 percent smoked electronic cigarettes, 14.3 percent drank alcohol, and 18.0 percent played gambling. Aforementioned variables were found to be associated with substance abuse experiences with statistical significance, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Variables associated with substance abuse experience.

		Substance abuse experience	chi-square	P value
		Ever	Never	
		n (%)	n (%)	
Working and earning income	Yes	59 (11.5)	455 (88.5)	6.624
	No	153 (7.9)	1,786 (92.1)	
Suspended from school	Yes	39 (23.6)	126 (76.4)	51.919
	No	162 (7.4)	2,030 (91.5)	
Carrying weapons	Yes	20 (29.9)	47 (70.1)	39.494
	No	194 (8.6)	2,225 (92.0)	
Fighting	Yes	55 (23.8)	176 (76.2)	75.711
	No	157 (7.0)	2,089 (93.0)	
Fighting at school	Yes	33 (17.9)	151 (82.1)	21.69
	No	182 (7.9)	2,120 (92.1)	
Fighting to be hospitalized	Yes	26 (37.1)	44 (62.9)	74.413
	No	188 (7.8)	2,225 (92.2)	

Table 3 cont.

		Substance abuse experience		chi-square	P value
		Ever	Never		
		n (%)	n (%)		
Physical disabilities	Yes	63 (12.4)	447 (87.6)	11.927	0.001
	No	147 (7.6)	1,800 (92.4)		
Learning disabilities	Yes	95 (12.2)	681 (87.8)	19.176	0.000
	No	116 (6.9)	1,562 (93.1)		
Hopelessness	Yes	87 (11.7)	656 (88.3)	13.463	0.000
	No	123 (7.2)	1,586 (92.8)		
Thought of suicide	Yes	35 (21.1)	131 (78.9)	38.112	0.000
	No	166 (7.4)	2,085 (92.6)		
Self-harm	Yes	73 (19.3)	306 (80.7)	66.138	0.000
	No	132 (6.5)	1,888 (93.5)		
Gambling	Yes	139 (18.0)	632 (82.0)	125.84	0.000
	No	75 (4.4)	1,638 (95.6)		
Smoking cigarettes	Yes	135 (34.1)	261 (65.9)	391.9	0.000
	No	78 (3.7)	2,013(96.3)		
Smoking electronic cigarettes	Yes	199 (34.9)	222 (65.1)	20.024	0.000
	No	42 (17.9)	193 (82.1)		
Drinking alcohol	Yes	170 (14.3)	1,015 (85.7)	93.153	0.000
	No	45 (3.5)	1,257 (96.5)		

The results of the multivariate analysis to explore the dangerous consequences of substance abuse using multiple logistic regression statistics were as follows.

The consequences of substance abuse pose a risk to learning. Experienced

substance abusers were 3.9 times more likely to be suspended from school than non-users (OR=3.7, 95%CI=2.6-5.7).

For violence and brawls, the consequences of substance abuse pose a risk of violence and brawls. Experienced substance abusers are at risk. Experienced

substance abusers were 4.9 times more likely to carry weapons than non-users ($OR=4.9$, $95\%CI=2.8-8.4$); 4.2 times were more likely to fight than non-users ($OR=4.2$, $95\%CI=2.9-5.9$); 2.5 times were more likely to fight at school than non-users ($OR=2.5$, $95\%CI=1.7-3.8$); 7.0 times were more likely to fight until they were hospitalized than non-users ($OR=7.0$, $95\%CI=4.2-11.6$).

In terms of health, the consequences of using substances pose potential health risks. Experienced substance abusers are at risk.

Physical/health disabilities were 1.7 times more likely than non-users ($OR=1.7$, $95\%CI=1.3-2.4$). Learning/emotional control disabilities were 1.9 times more likely than non-users ($OR=1.9$, $95\%CI=1.4-2.5$). Experienced substance abusers were 1.7 times more depressed than nonusers ($OR=1.7$, $95\%CI=1.3-2.9$). Self-harm was 3.4 times more likely than non-users ($OR=3.4$, $95\%CI=2.5-4.7$). They were 3.4 times more likely to have suicidal thoughts than non-users (adds ratio=3.4, $95\%CI=2.2-5.0$).

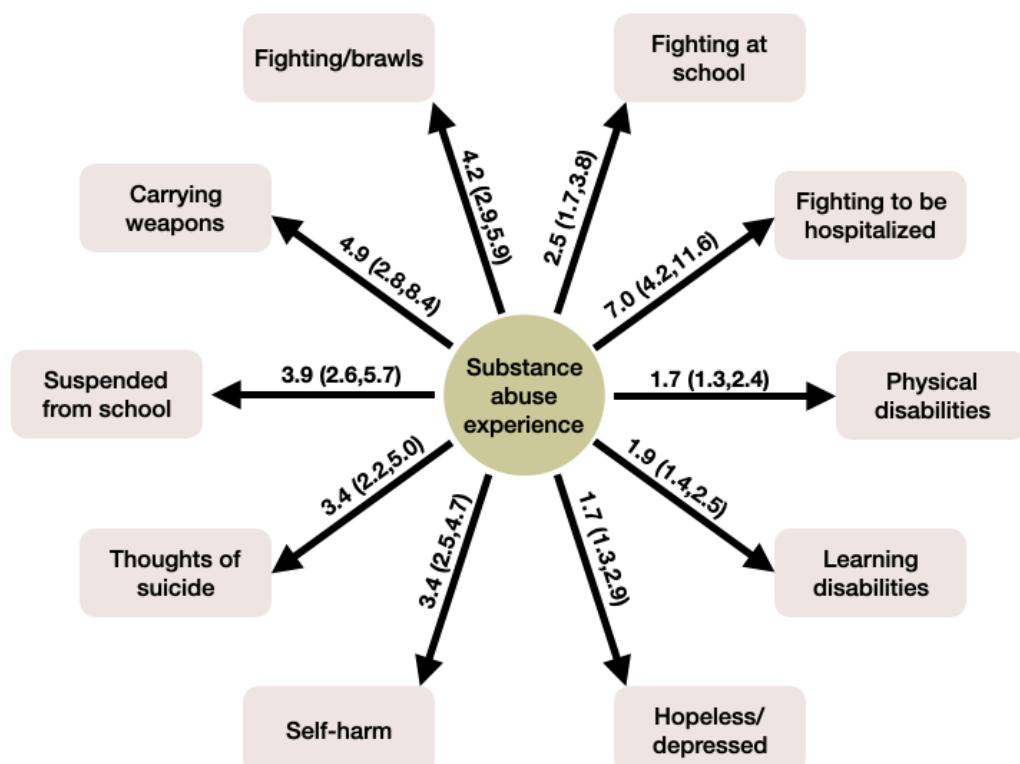


Figure 1 Dangerous consequences of substance abuse (95% confidence interval).

DISCUSSION

The youth in educational institutions who used drugs could be from their curiosity. Also, peer influence of persuasion makes it easy to try drugs. Nine percent of the youth in educational institutions used drugs, much higher than the general population, 7.5% from the latest national household survey (Kanato et al., 2020). The vocational students have ever used drugs in the highest proportion. The age of first drug use is 14 years and lower, found to be up to 30 percent.

Regarding substance use experience, over half of the youth have used cannabis. This reflects the easiness of cannabis accessibility among youth in Thailand. Research elsewhere showed that cannabis accessibility was more accessible after the cannabis law amendment in Thailand (Kanato et al., 2022). Although cannabis use among elementary students was not found in this study, the average age of cannabis first use was 15.65 years. Among early secondary students, cannabis was found to be used. This is echoed by recent studies that cannabis use could be found as early as age 12. The use proportion was higher with age (Kanato et al., 2022). Subsequent drugs were Yaba (methamphetamine tablet), Ice (methamphetamine crystal), Kratom/Boiled Kratom mixed with other substances, ketamine, and volatile substances. Studies elsewhere also found the use of opium and heroin in addition (Leyatikul et al., 2021).

The consequences of drug use pose a risk that affects the lives of young

people, both in terms of learning disabilities, violence/brawls, and health. This study found that approximately 24 percent of the youth who used drugs suffered from learning problems that result in suspension from school, and 12.2 percent had learning disabilities. In terms of violence, it was found that those who had experienced substance abuse were at risk of having fights that lead to hospitalization. They were 7.0 times more likely to fight than non-users. This could be a risk of violence in schools as well. This is consistent with the study of Suwaphan Kayotha and Wuthipong Phakdeekul, which found that the effects of drug use include 51.1 percent quarreling (Kayotha et al., 2018). In addition, the youth was at the age of physical, mental, and intellectual change. Substance abuse among young people also contributes to physical and mental health problems, causing physical/health impairments affecting growth and quality of life. It also found that people who had experienced substance abuse affected the mental state of the youth with hopeless depression. Self-harm occurred and increased to the point of suicidal thoughts at more than 20 percent.

Based on the results of the study, educational institutions should have a survey of risky behavior among students. Students should be monitored annually to know the problems in prevent and fix them. It also monitors the changes and trends of the problems that occur. There should be clear guidelines for screening, supervising, and mentoring students who start to have risky behaviors to provide care and help

solve problems appropriately. Schools should play an essential role in enhancing immunity against problems. It should urgently encourage educational institutions to adjust teaching and learning to develop the youth to have EQ, life skills, including general life skills and specific life skills, including a system that covers all educational institutions to help students.

CONCLUSION

The most addictive substances that young people use are cannabis, Yaba, and Ice. Substance abusers among vocational education students had a higher proportion than general education students. The age of first drug use among young people in educational institutions was less than 15 years old because they were probably curious to try it. Moreover, persuasion from friends makes it easy to try drugs. The consequences of using drugs pose risks and affect young people's lives in learning, violence, and physical and mental health.

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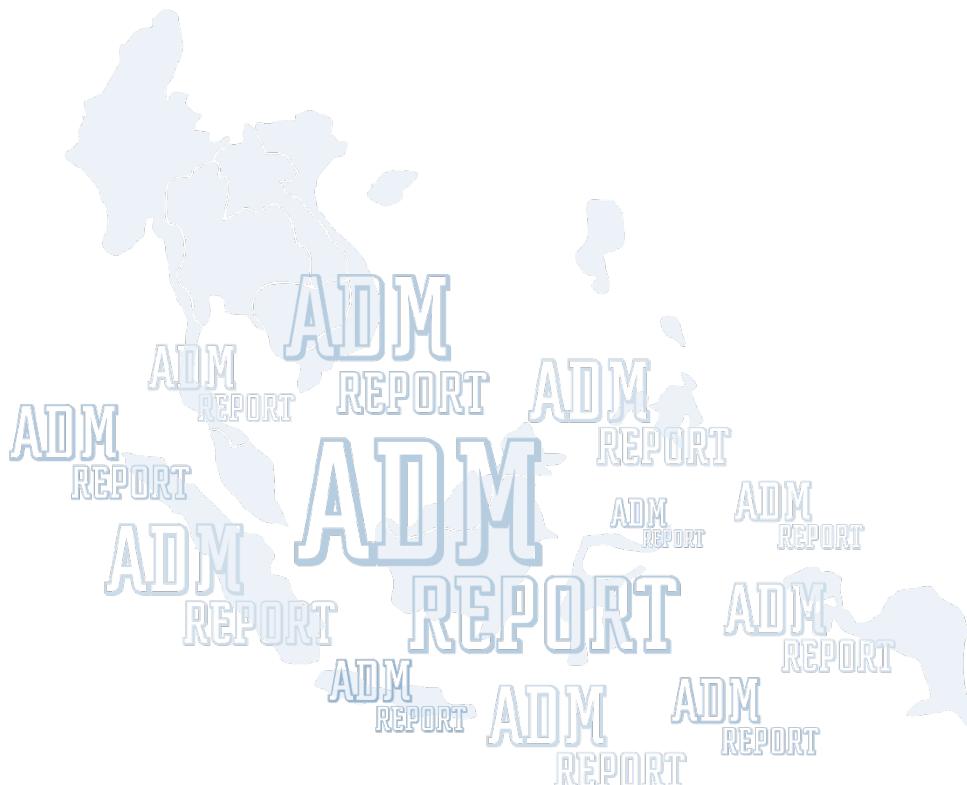
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CHAPTER 5

Policy and Implementation Programme



Brunei

Implementation of Demand Reduction Strategy falls under the responsibility of three different divisions under the Bureau: Preventive Drug Education, Supervision and Al-Islah Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre. This strategy aims to discourage both public and previous convict from engaging in illegal drug activities be it through awareness programmes, supervising drug offender and providing both treatment and rehabilitation for recovering drug abusers.

DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGY THROUGH PREVENTIVE DRUG EDUCATION

Preventive Drug Education is vital in educating the public on the danger of drugs and its consequences to the security of the nation and our future generation through awareness programmes conducted by all means of communications, be it face to face interaction, printed media, electronic media

or social media, with the support from public and private sectors and various civil society associations.

1. LECTURES / TALKS

1.1 School Based Talks

Through the Preventive Drug Education Division, Narcotics Control Bureau actively conducted talks and lectures for students throughout the nation targeting the primary and secondary levels as well as the tertiary levels which includes higher education institutions and technical education.

The talk and lectures focused on the misuse of controlled drugs, types of drugs and its effects to the society. Students were constantly reminded to be aware of drug pushers whose modus operandi would offers monies or gadgets such as handphones, laptops etc to persuade naive young individuals to carry out their illegal deeds.



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At primary level, students were shown cartoon animation program which highlight drug awareness amongst youth. Interactive activities for the students were also organized such as posing questions aimed in catching students' attention throughout the session. In return, students would be given gifts and souvenirs for their active participation.



Number of students attending talks at primary, secondary and tertiary level:

	Jan – April	May - June	July - Aug	Sep - Oct	Nov - Dec	Total
Primary Level	0	0	251	46	102	399
Secondary Level	298	150	0	98	430	976
Tertiary Level	565	130	189	94	37	1015

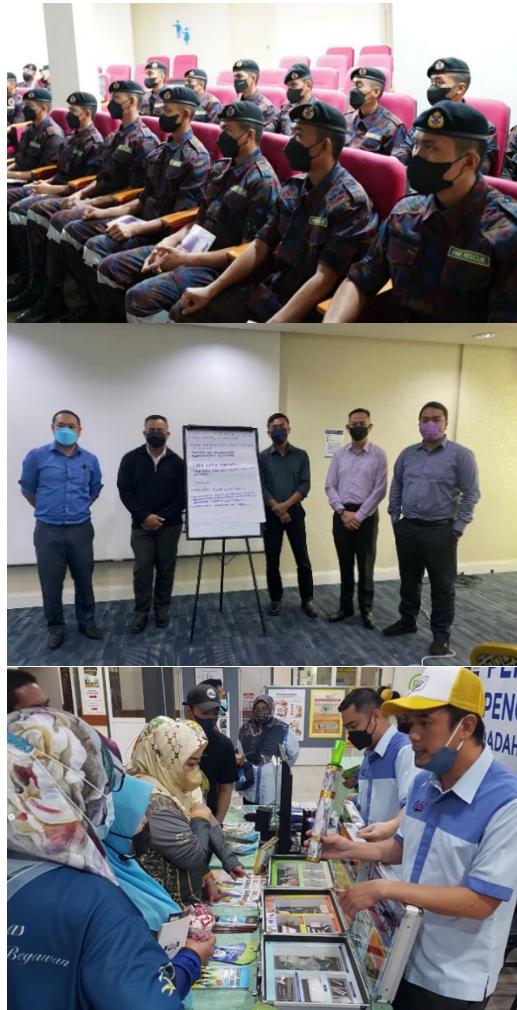
1.2 Community-Based Program

Community-based programmes are organized through anti-drugs programs, exhibitions, roadshows, exhibitions, roadshow, interactive games and competitions in work and public places to deliver awareness on the different types of drugs and its effects.

Several provisions of drug laws such as the Misuse of Drugs, Chapter 27 and deterrent punishment which provides either long term imprisonment or death upon conviction as set in the law against drug traffickers and those importing or exporting controlled drugs into Brunei Darussalam were highlighted in these programmes.

Audiences were reminded not to fall prey by unknown and unreliable resources, rejecting lavish gifts and promising job, monetary offers which could drag them into the ‘drug mules’ scam schemed by the international drug trafficking syndicates.

Through the work place programmes, NCB has reached out to 1,985 audiences from various government agencies and private sectors.



2. SOCIAL MEDIA

2.1 Instagram PDE Updates

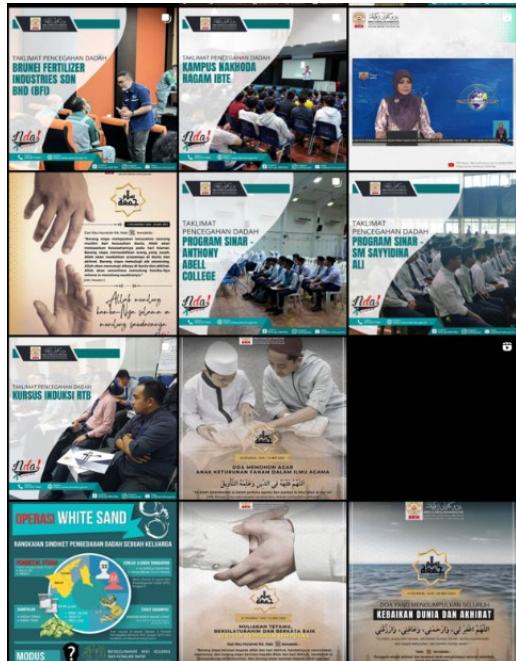
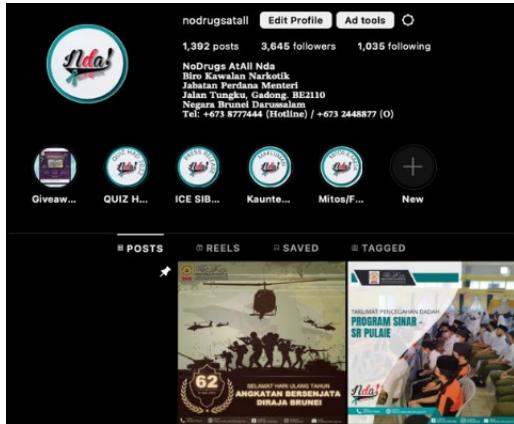
The ‘nodrugsatall’ instagram account’s has a total number of 3,645 followers with 1,392 posts and 5 content highlights.

The postings consist of activities including postings of information on drug related matters, PDE’s activities such as lectures, talks or roadshows, national

celebrations, or event greetings, whereas Friday postings are also inserted with verses and notifications picked from the Holy Quran and Prophets’ Hadis.

Latest NCB Press Release are also uploaded regarding the NCB arrest containing information of cases and relevant photo.

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2.2 PDE Quiz

PDE has initiated a monthly quiz posted in the PDE IG and had received positive responses from the public.

The questions posed are related to knowledge on different types of controlled drugs, effect on taking drugs types of offences, punishment and other drug related matters. This is one of the approaches in disseminating anti-drugs messages to the public.



2.3 Live IG Forum

Live IG forum was held and recorded for broadcast on television. This is one of the approaches in disseminating information on dealing with drugs in an integrated way on the community to the public.



2.4 Roadshow

To commemorate 2022's International Drugs Day, several roadshows were held in various districts with coloring activities. The activities had received positive response from the public.



2.5 Video recordings of dialects used by Brunei Indigenous tribe

Video of anti-drug messages in different Bruneian dialects namely Malay, Belait, Bisaya, Murut, Iban, Dusun and Kedayan were recorded to disseminate information on the danger of drugs and its impact to include all the indigenous groups of community.



3. PDE ACTIVITIES

3.1 The International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

3.1.1 Radio Publicity

To commemorate the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking celebrations, NCB and Radio Televisyen Brunei, a local radio station collaborated to highlight these events on all local radio channels in Mandarin, Malay and English commencing 20 June to 30 June 2022.



3.1.2 Reading of the Friday Sermon

On the 24 June 2022, the Friday sermon was announced in every main mosque in Brunei Darussalam to remind Muslim followers the contents of the sermon, strictly prohibiting activities relating to drug crimes, awareness on the effects and dangers of drug, the punishment in accordance to the Islamic Syariah Law and those related.



3.1.3 Blessing supplication

On 25 June 2022, the supplication for the blessing was held in accordance to the ceremony. It was held at the NCB Headquarters, Jalan Tungku, Gadong in attendance of NCB officers and staff. The ceremony began with the congregation of the Sunat Hajat Prayer and followed by the recitation of the Surah Yassin and reading of Doa to bless the events held.

The Guest of Honor present for the ceremony was Dato Paduka Mohd Zalani bin Haji Ismail, Director of NCB.

3.1.4 Lighting of bridges

On the evening of 26 June 2022, Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Bridge and Sultan Haji Sir Muda Omar Ali Saifuddien Bridge were lighted with turquoise lightings. The turquoise ribbon echoes the sign of hope and continuous support on ex-drug offenders to gain addiction recovery.



3.1.5 Main event of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking

On 26 June 2022, the main event to observe the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking was held at the Taman Haji Sir Muda Omar 'Ali Saifuddien, Bandar Seri Begawan, Brunei Darussalam.

It was officiated by Yang Berhormat Pehin Datu Lailaraja Mejor General (Rtd) Dato Paduka Seri Haji Awang Halbi bin Haji Mohd Yussof, Minister at the Prime Minister's Office. The theme for Brunei Darussalam this year is "Cegah Bersama, Negara Bahagia".

The Minister launched two video clips produced namely "Tekad Biro Kawalan Narkotik" and "Adang Tah" and later proceeded to visit exhibition held by PDE and Pusat Al-Islah.

"Tekad Biro Kawalan Narkotik" is a patriotic song aims to unite NCB officers to work and strive together in combating drug

activities in Brunei Darussalam. While "Adang Tah" is a song aims in giving awareness the public on drug abuse and the importance of family acceptance in recuperating process of ex-drug offenders. Both songs in the video clips were produced by our PDE officer.

The exhibition was also participated by other government agencies, which include the Royal Brunei Police, Prison Department, Royal Customs and Excise Department, Anti-Corruption Bureau and Internal Security Department. Non-government bodies such as BASMIDA, Health Promotion Centre and Brunei AIDS Council were also invited to participate in the event.

Pamphlets and flyers containing information on different types of drugs and the effect were distributed. Prizes were also given to those who participated in the colouring competition and quiz.





DRUG DEMAND REDUCTION STRATEGY THROUGH TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION AND AFTERCARE

Treatment and Rehabilitation

Al-Islah Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre is an approved treatment and rehabilitation of drugs centre in Brunei Darussalam which adopts the psycho-social model focusing on behavioural changes through Therapeutic Community Program, spiritual therapy, life skills and vocational training. Section 33 of the Misuse of Drugs Act, Chapter 27 empowers the Minister to commit a drug abuser for treatment and rehabilitation.

The centre adopts Therapeutic Community (TC) as the treatment mode for its residents aiming to reinforce positive behaviour. Therapeutic Community is a group-based approach which aims to treat its clients (residents) from emotional

disturbances in a communal atmosphere and emphasizes the role of peers in securing safe-environment through the process of learning and support amongst themselves. It also emphasizes on family responsibility which encourage behavioural shaping and management, emotional and psychological support, intellectual and spiritual support as well as vocational and survival skills.

There are 3 types of admission to Al-Islah Centre, namely, the Court Order, Minister's Order and Voluntary admission. The period of detention at Al-Islah Centre is not less than six months and not more than 36 months in accordance to Misuse of Drugs Act (Chap. 27) Misuse of Drugs (Approved Institutions) (Discipline) Regulation, 1987.

The treatment and rehabilitation programme are structured in four different phases based on the 4 components of Therapeutic Community as below:

- The Spiritual and Intellectual Aspect
- Psychological and Emotional Aspect

➤ Behavioural Management and Life skills

➤ Vocational Aspect

In 2022, a total of 119 residents were registered into the centre consisting of 105 males and 14 females to undergo treatment and rehabilitation programme in the centre:

Types of admission	No. of registered residents
Court's Order	32
Minister's Order	44
Volunteer	43

Aftercare

Supervision as an aspect of aftercare services is considered in Brunei Darussalam to be vital for the true realisation of the rehabilitation process. Continuous aftercare support and encouragement to the supervisees help them reintegrate fully into the society.

Supervision Scheme is compulsory in Brunei Darussalam and is legally provided by the Misuse of Drugs (Approved Institutions and Treatment and Rehabilitation) Regulations, 1987. The supervision scheme is a two-year programme comprising of two phases. Throughout the supervision period, supervisees are required to vigilant supervision programme, intake assessment,

urine screening, home visits and family interviews. In addition, further enhancement to the supervision programme is being introduced with the establishment of Counselling and Psychology Units.

Drug offenders released from the prisons and Al-Islah Treatment and Rehabilitation Centre are required to undergo the supervision scheme upon the release. This is to help them to re-integrate back into the society after being detained in prison and undergoing treatment and rehabilitation.

In 2022, 194 supervisees were registered into the supervision scheme as below:

Types of referral	No. of registered supervisee
Court's Order	32
Prison	44
Al-Islah Treatment and Rehabilitation centre	43

Malaysia

Introduction

Illicit drug use is complex, hidden, and often highly stigmatized behavior, which brings a vast challenge for drug surveillance systems. Drug abuse had become the main concern of the Malaysian government since 1983. National Anti-Drugs Agency (NADA) is a focal agency under the Ministry of Home Affairs responsible for handling drug problems encompassing preventive education and public awareness, law enforcement, treatment and rehabilitation as well as international cooperation. Malaysia is committed addressing the drug issues as sharing and exchanging information on current and effective efforts in reducing drug abuse based on best-practice and evidence-based practices.

Treatment and Rehabilitation

The Mobile Recovery Treatment (MRT AADK) service by National Anti-Drugs Agency

The Mobile Recovery Treatment service by National Anti-Drugs Agency (MRT AADK), Malaysia was launched on 19 May 2022 by the Minister of Home Affairs to provide drug addiction treatment and rehabilitation program services to specialized groups who were facing constraints to seek treatment and

rehabilitation at AADK facilities including inmates at Malaysian Prisons Department and the Social Welfare Department. MRT AADK has been implemented nationwide with a total of 110 NADA addiction professionals delivering psycho-social services in the community. A total number of 3,750 clients successfully attended the Mobile Recovery Treatment (MRT AADK) service for the year 2022.

i-Pulih AADK model

NADA introduces a basic model framework; i-Pulih AADK Model that has been enhanced including biology, psychology, spiritual and social. The i-Pulih AADK Model offers a multiple recovery program and therapeutic environment of rehabilitation that provides the support required for a successful recovery. There are nine (9) components in the i-Pulih AADK model to ensure clients' recovery:

- a) Counselling;
- b) Psychoeducation;
- c) Psycho-spiritual;
- d) Health education;
- e) Physical training;
- f) Social & recreation;
- g) Social integration;
- h) Skills training & career placement;
and
- i) Civic education

Through the i-Pulih AADK Model, individuals with drug addiction problems can seek treatment at 109 AADK community-facilities or through the Institutional Treatment and Rehabilitation Program at 30 Narcotics Addiction Rehabilitation Centers (PUSPEN).

National Recovery Aspiration Family Program

Family and co-dependent have been found to have strong influence in substance use and misuse. By seeking out and leveraging pro-recovery relationships, the family would become the source of aspiration achieve stable recovery. Structured family support has been introduced by NADA since 2020 and it proved to be effective when statistics show the client's recovery retention level which was only 20% in 2015 was successfully increased to 71% in September 2022. NADA launched National Recovery Aspiration Family Program 2022 to prevent negative stigma and to empowering family to build recovery capital. The program was officiated by His Royal Highness the Regent of Pahang, Tengku Mahkota Tengku Hasanal Ibrahim Shah Ibni Al-Sultan Abdullah Ri'ayatuddin Al-Mustafa Billah Shah on 18 October 2022. With the trends and emerging development of synthetic drugs in East and Southeast Asia, Malaysia put diverse efforts to ensure holistic approaches available to change the way people understand substance use and addiction.

Cure and Care Recovery Index (CCRI)

NADA is committed to ensuring people who use drugs (PWUD) in the

community received holistic treatment and rehabilitation. NADA believes recovery is not about being free from drug abuse but is a process of change through individuals improving their health and wellness, living a self-directed life, and striving to reach their full potential. NADA developed Cure and Care Recovery Index (CCRI) based on Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)'s ten guiding principles of recovery and ten basic components in four key dimensions (health, home, purposes, and community).

In the year 2022, 19,440 NADA clients who received treatment in a community setting have been evaluated by CCRI based on indicators of recovery. 72% of the 19,440 clients have reached the set score based on six indexes as stated below:

- a) The use of drugs and substances;
- b) Social Support & Networking;
- c) Employment;
- d) Social Function;
- e) Readiness to change; and
- f) Physiological and mental wellbeing

Preventive Drug Education

New initiative has also been applied such as:

- i. **Greening of 155 high-risk areas (KBT).** These 155 KBT focus on the issue of drug and substance abuse, as well as social diversion that may be the root cause of drug and crime issues. The KBT greening program is aim to prevent the emergence of new addicts, increase the recovery rate of clients, improve the detection of drug

addicts, increase cooperation and community / agency involvement and restrict the entry of drugs. The implementation of the program in 155 KBT comprises of these KBTs divided in 5 years towards achieving “Restrained-Drug 2025” starting with 16 KBTs in 2021 and 23 KBTs in 2022. Among programs implemented in these areas including prevention, rehabilitative treatment, enforcement and harm reduction by involving four phases of action namely cleaning, intervention, strengthening and retention. Local District Officers are appointed as program coordinators using *Community Empowerment* approach, by having community leaders in responsible for area management at KBT and this will indirectly mobilize all efforts and actions collaboratively and comprehensively.

- ii. **Prevention-focused campaign.** Educate young people about the ill effects of drug use and encourage them to make healthy choices.
- iii. **Co-operation and establishment of smart partnership with private sectors** for better coverage of PDE initiatives and public awareness movement with cooperation of prominent private sectors.

Enforcement Initiatives

i– Prihatin Model

NADA Enforcement initiatives aim to help the drug addicts to be treated and rehabilitated. To achieve this objective, NADA introduced model *i-Prihatin* model in 2022. The main context of this model is situational based approach.

The implementation of this approach is based on three concepts that are:

- i) Fragmented
- ii) Integrated
- iii) Centred

Fragmented

Involves the implementation of all core enforcement services such as functions:

- a) Intelligence
- b) Operation
- c) Investigation and Prosecution
- d) Surveillance
- e) Safety

This approach targeted to empower intelligence and develop profiling system to formulate the next operational strategy. Besides, it is hope to improve investigation and prosecution capabilities to ensure suspected person can achieve treatment and rehabilitation either in community or institutional. It is aimed to increase the role of supervision to ensure that the client's recovery can be maintained and to empower security system.

Integrated

The implementation of enforcement adapted to other core service functions such as treatment and rehabilitation as well as

prevention. The role of enforcement in this context is to give the chance to voluntary programs before enforcing the law to suspected person into treatment and rehabilitation programs. It is aimed to Create a safe and free environment from the elements of drug addiction and distribution to maximize the effectiveness of the Drug Prevention Program.

Centred

Implementation of enforcement involving the role of Strategic Partners such as Agencies and other Enforcement Departments. Play a role in establishing cooperation in the field of:

- a) Enforcement operation
- b) Exchange of intelligence information
- c) Database integration
- d) Skills and training sharing

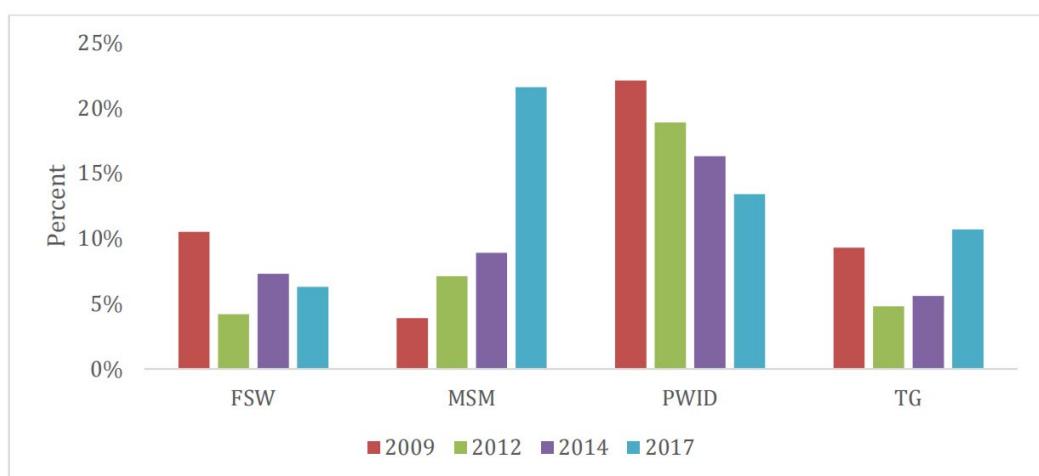
This concept encourages smart partner involvement in supporting enforcement initiatives such as:

- a) Omnipresence
- b) Community Consultation Program
- c) Intelligence information (community)
- d) Profiling Information

Harm Reduction

Malaysia has implemented the harm reduction approach since 2005 primarily to reduce HIV infection among People Who Inject Drug (PWID). PWID are one of the key populations for HIV infection in Malaysia and are included in the Integrated Biological Behavioural Surveillance (IBBS) survey at regular interval (2 to 3 years) since year 2009.

HIV prevalence among key populations, Malaysia (2009-2017)



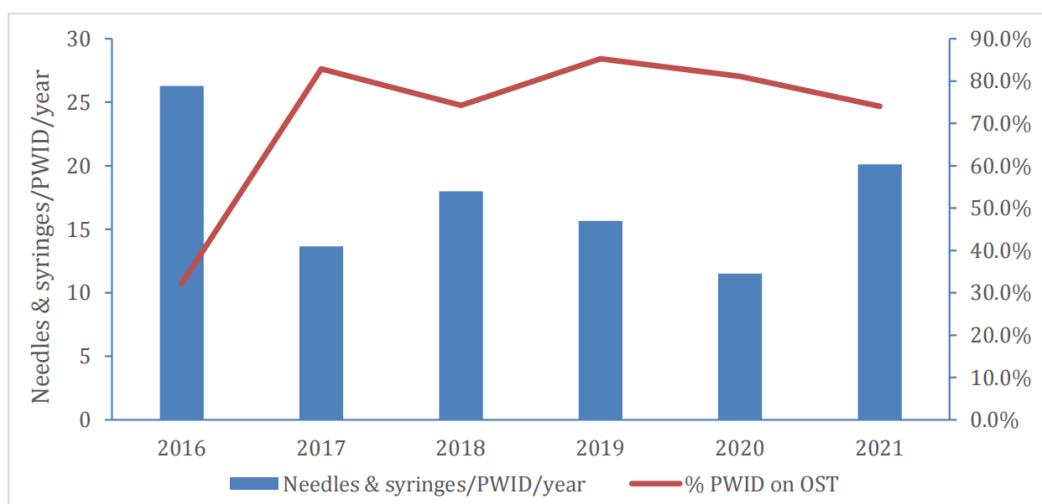
Source: IBBS, Global AIDS Monitoring 2021, Ministry of Health Malaysia

Given that sharing injection paraphernalia is the main mode of transmission in Malaysia since the beginning of the HIV epidemic, Harm Reduction Program that consist of Needle and Syringe Exchange Program (NSEP) and Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST) remained the mainstay of prevention programs to PWID in Malaysia.

The OST Program coverage offered at selected government and private health facilities since 2006, has shown an increased coverage to 74% of estimated PWID population in 2021. While the NSEP program, implemented through smart partnership with NGO under Malaysian Aids Council (MAC) at their outreach points

throughout the country has reported a significant reduction in program coverage of less than 50% in 2019-2020. Apart from actual decrease in demand because of PWIDs transitioning fully to OST and changing pattern of drug use, this could also be due to COVID-19 related movement control order implemented nationwide. As a temporary measure to improve access for PWIDs, government health clinics had been made NSEP points during lockdowns. However, movements for all Malaysians were still restricted and this resulted in less needles distributed. In 2021, however, we observed a modest recovery in the number of needles and syringes distributed to PWID by 19% compared to 2020.

NSP and OST Coverage among PWID, 2016-2021



Source: Global AIDS Monitoring 2021, Ministry of Health Malaysia

This is in line with the National Strategic Plan for Ending AIDS that encourage opioid injectors to shift to OST to ensure better ART uptake.

According to IBBS results from 2012 to 2017, the coverage of prevention programmes among PWID have been moderate (50%-70%) but higher compare to other key population

Coverage of Prevention Programmes among Key Populations, Malaysia, IBBS 2012-2017

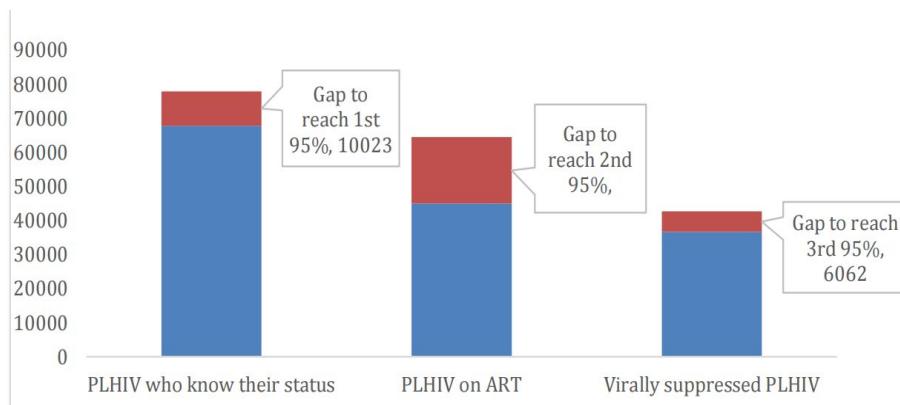


Source: Global AIDS Monitoring 2020, Ministry of Health Malaysia

Malaysia has its sight set on the beginning of the end of AIDS in the country through the new National Strategic Plan on Ending AIDS for 2016–2030 including fast-track-treatment target of 95–95–95; with 95% of people living in HIV (PLHIV) know

their status, 95% PLHIV will receive Antiretroviral Treatment and 95% PLHIV receiving Antiretroviral Therapy will have viral suppression. In that regard, Malaysia has achieved 83%-66%-82% as of 2021 as shown on the chart below.

HIV Testing and Treatment Cascade, Malaysia, 2021



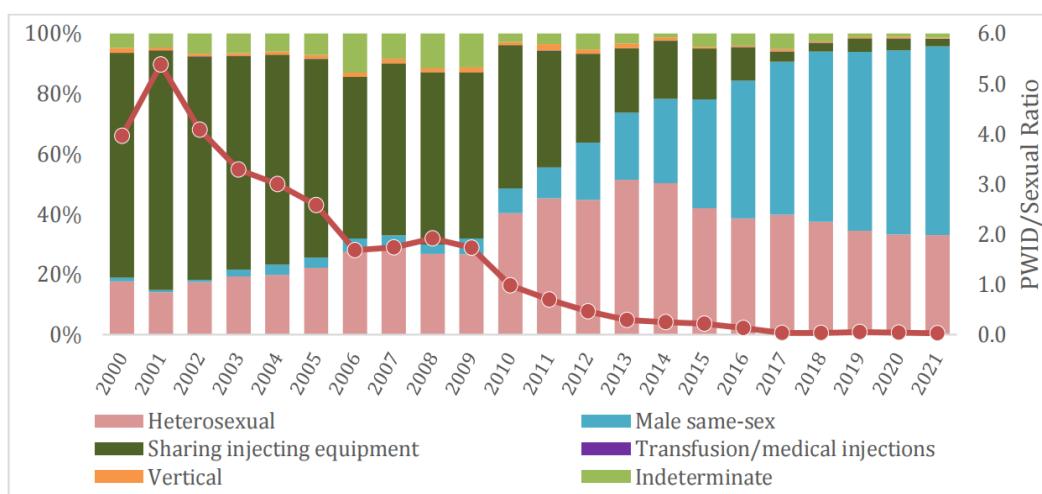
Source: Global AIDS Monitoring 2021, Ministry of Health Malaysia

However, this program is also in the context of drug treatment aimed at minimizing the adverse public health and social consequences of drug abuse, and with a view to prevent the transmission of HIV, viral hepatitis and other blood-borne diseases associated with drug use.

In the past one decade, the country observed gradual changes in the HIV

epidemic landscape from predominantly PWID to more sexual transmission. Trend of HIV transmission mode in Malaysia according to surveillance data, with PWID/sexual transmission ratio declining from 3.95 in 2000 to 0.04 in 2021. However, these changes bring forth new challenge related to sexual behaviour with drug use.

Trend of HIV infection by Mode of Transmission, 2000-2021

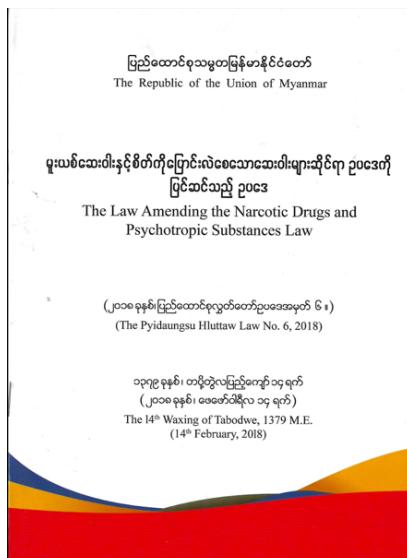


Source: Global AIDS Monitoring 2021, Ministry of Health Malaysia

In the nutshell, these programs (harm reduction) have positive impact as reflected in the declining of HIV prevalence among this key population.

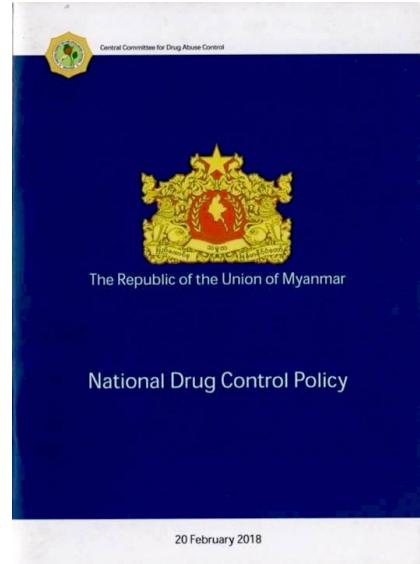
Myanmar

Myanmar also attempted to strengthen essential laws and procedures along with its drug control measures and political commitments. The 1993 Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Law was amended and enacted on 14 February 2018 and the amendments included to replace previous punishments with social work activities, rehabilitation and integration of people who use drugs into society.



Main strategies are based on the five priority areas mentioned in the National Drug Control Policy and are as follows;

- ❖ Supply Reduction and Alternative Development
- ❖ Demand and Harm Reduction



In addition, National Drug Control Policy essential for drug control measures was endorsed on 20 February 2018 and the policy highlighted public health and human rights as prioritized approaches for the first time in the country. As such, this strategic plan is formulated for practical implementation of the national drug control policy.

- ❖ International Cooperation
- ❖ Research and Analysis
- ❖ Compliance with Human rights

To reduce drug related problems of Myanmar with health and human rights focused pragmatic strategies.

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The National Drug Control Strategic Plan (2022-2024)

The National Drug Control Strategic Plan for 5 years period (2020-2024) and we have distributed to the relevant Region/State of drug abuse control agencies. The drug situation is different in each Region/State and selecting the priority activities of each Region/State and the implementation goals

can be achieved the objectives of the strategic plan. The strategic plan should be used as a guideline framework for the operational action plan that suits their Region/State must be selected and implemented over a two-year period.

Family Based Drug Use Prevention Education Guideline

Objects

- To understand the basics of effective drug use prevention activities and participate in prevention activities.
- To help parents protect their children from drug use and social organizations can properly carry out family-based drug use prevention activities

Publishing

- 2600 Books

Distribution

- Ministry of Education, Ministry of Information, Ministry of Home Affairs



The Philippines

Policies

To fulfill the mandate of the Dangerous Drugs Board, it formulates policies to address new and emerging issues on drug abuse prevention and control. From January to December 2022, eight (8) Board Regulations have been adopted in the country. The following are the relevant policies issued:

Board Regulation No. 1, Series of 2022

Extending the Grant of the Provisional Removal of Lianhua Qingwen from the List of Dangerous Drugs for Another Period of One (1) Year

On February 4, 2021, the Board promulgated Regulation No. 1, Series of 2021 approving the Provisional Removal of Lianhua Qingwen from the List of Dangerous Drugs for a Period of One Year pursuant to Section 93 for RA 9165 which further provides that prior to the expiration of the one-year period, the Committee on Reclassification shall evaluate and recommend to the Board whether to shorten or extend the said period given the prevailing circumstances at such time.

Since the introduction of Lianhua Qingwen capsules in the Philippine market, there had been no reports of adverse drug

reactions, nor any reports of abuse despite the product having trace/negligible amounts of ephedra, a known dangerous drug under Philippine laws, as an active component. Lianhua Qingwen has so far been an alternative affordable option for most Filipinos with mild COVID-19 symptoms.

Board Regulation No. 2, Series of 2022

Amending Board Regulation No. 8 Series of 2021 Entitled “Authorizing the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology to Operate Jail-Based Drug Reformation Centers”

The Board on November 8, 2021, approved and adopted Regulation No. 8 series of 2021 authorizing the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) to operate jail-based drug reformation centers for Persons Deprived of Liberty (PDL)

This regulation covers PDLs. Ordered by the courts to undergo six (6) months of rehabilitation as a penalty for the first offense in Section 15 of Article II of Republic Act No. 9165 and/or those who availed of plea-bargaining covered by A.M. No. 18-03-16-SC issued by the Supreme Court on August 10, 2018:

Provided however, that the concerned PDL have been subjected to drug dependency examination (DDE) by a

Department of Health (DOH) accredited physician as a requirement of the court, wherein he/she is found to be a non-user or must have been declared to have "MILD" dependence;

And provided further that the PDL has no other pending criminal cases or other unserved penalties.

Board Regulation No. 3, Series of 2022

Enhancing the Balay Silangan Reformation Program (BSRP) Repealing for such Purpose Board Regulation No. 2, Series of 2018

These guidelines provide for a reformation program for qualified pushers who voluntarily surrendered to authorities and plea bargainers for violation of RA 9165 who are not eligible to be admitted in a Department of Health (DOH) operated and/or accredited Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Facility, Community Based Drug Rehabilitation Program (CBDRP), and General Intervention (GI).

The Reformatory Program is a process of rectifying or modifying negative attitude and behavior to enable the person to be more productive and acceptable to society. This also includes facilitating the reintegration of the individual back to his family and community.

Board Regulation No. 4, Series of 2022

Inclusion of Isotonitazene in the list of Dangerous Drugs

Isotonitazene is a synthetic opioid with a high potential for abuse and dependence and has potency greater than that of morphine or fentanyl.

During the 64th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UN-CND) held from 12 to 16 April 2021, it was agreed that ISOTONITAZENE be included in Schedule I of the 1961 Convention as amended by the 1972 Protocol.

Board Regulation No. 5, Series of 2022

Inclusion of Diphenididine in the list of Dangerous Drugs

Diphenididine is a dissociative anesthetic that has been sold as a designer drug and in combination with other research chemicals, particularly synthetic cannabinoids and stimulants in Japanese herbal incense blends.

During the 64th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UN-CND) held from 14 April 2021, it was agreed that DIPHENIDINE be included in Schedule II of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

Board Regulation No. 6, Series of 2022

Inclusion of Clonazolam in the list of Dangerous Drugs

Clonazolam, is allegedly a potent combination of clonazepam and alprazolam, 2.5 times more potent than Xanax and produces intense sedation and amnesia.

During the 64th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UN-CND) held on 14 April 2021, it was agreed that CLONAZOLAM be included in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

Board Regulation No. 7, Series of 2022

Inclusion of Diclazepam in the list of Dangerous Drugs

Diclazepam also known as Chlorodiazepam and 2'-chlorodiazepam, is a benzodiazepine and functional analog of diazepam which is not currently approved for use as a medication, but rather sold as an unscheduled substance.

During the 64th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UN-CND) held on 14 April 2021, it was agreed that DICLAZEPAM be included in

Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

Board Regulation No. 8, Series of 2022

Inclusion of Flubromazolam in the list of Dangerous Drugs

Flubromazolam is a triazolo-benzodiazepine, a benzodiazepine analog that shares characteristics of the commonly prescribed benzodiazepine. One unique element of this “designer” benzo is its potency. Flubromazolam has produced life-threatening side effects in individuals.

During the 64th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (UN-CND) held on 14 April 2021, it was agreed that FLUBROMAZOLAM be included in Schedule IV of the 1971 Convention on Psychotropic Substances.

Preventive Education and Training Programs

Capacity Building and Advocacy Programs

Seminar on the Integration of Gender and Development (GAD) Concepts to the Existing Drug-Related Program – 23 - 24 May 2022

Divisions and Units of the DDB attended the workshop on Gender and Development focused on Gender Fair



Language Communication to adopt its concepts to the existing DDB drug-related programs.

1st National Consultation Meeting on Early Warning System – 19-20 September 2022 at Novotel Hotel Manila, Araneta City

This is a two (2) day National Consultation meeting on Early Warning System (EWS) for New Psychoactive Substances (NPS). It was attended by participants from focal agencies and UNODC Officials.



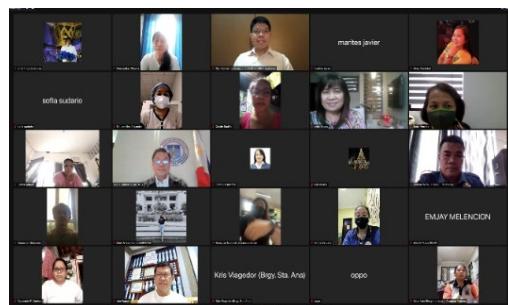
Webinar on Systematic Training for Effective Parenting (STEP)

This two to three-day seminar via hybrid platform aims to enrich the participants' knowledge and skills on effective parenting and enhance their roles as parents in drug prevention and control, especially during the pandemic.



This year, three STEP training sessions were successfully implemented, namely:

1. The first one was held on 23-24 February via Cisco Webex platform participated by officers and members of Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (ADACs), Barangay Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (BADACs) and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) from the Municipality of Pateros;
2. The second webinar was held on 3-4 March 2022. It was attended by one hundred fifty-eight (158) participants composed of National Drug Education Program (NDEP) Coordinators, Teachers and Nurses



from various public primary and secondary schools of the Department of Education, Region XI, Schools Division of South Cotabato.

3. The third one was conducted face to face on 14-15 September 2022 in Koronadal City and attended by 64 participants composed of Non-Teachibg Personnel, Doctors and Nurses of DepEd Tacurong and Koronadal Cities, City ADAC of Koronadal and officers and members of Koronadal City Parents-Teachers Association (PTA).



Training on Strengthening Anti-Drug Abuse Councils (ADACs) on Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program (CBDRP)

This training is pursuant to Board Regulation No. 4, Series 2020, which aims to provide guidelines for the oversight of General Intervention (GI) and Community-Based Drug Rehabilitation Program (CBDRP) implemented and adopted by the Local Government Units at various levels.

It was attended by 164 participants from the different municipalities in the Province of Palawan, Batangas, Oriental Mindoro and Sarangani Province which was held on 20-21 July 2022 at Astoria Hotel, Palawan.

Online Seminar-Workshop on Dangerous Drugs Law for Judges, Prosecutors, and Law Enforcers

This is a three-day seminar-workshop that aims to coordinate and integrate the overall efforts of the Criminal Justice System (CJS), especially in prosecution and investigation. With the help of the Department of Justice and the Philippine Judicial Academy, a virtual workshop was held on 09-11 November 2022.



Seminar on Capacitating Faith-Based Organizations on Drug Abuse Prevention Education (DAPE)

This seminar aims to empower religious organizations to be anti-drug advocates and capacitate them on necessary knowledge and skills on DAPE.

In 2022, there were two seminars conducted:

1. The first was held on 14-15 May 2022, at Madison Hotel 101, Quezon City and participants were composed of Pastors/religious leaders from ABCI Muntinlupa, Lay Ministers from Nuestra Señora del Perpetuo Socorro (NSPS) Parish, SanLakbay Facilitator, Sacred Heart Parish Sta. Mesa, Parish Pastoral Council, Our Lady of Fatima, Bacood, Add for Life Ministry, Most Holy Trinity Parish of Balic-Balic Parish Youth Ministry and Education Ministry, Nuestra Señora de Salvacion Parish of Sta. Mesa, Parish Youth Council Archdiocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Loreto Parish, Couples for Christ Global Mission Foundation, NSPS Chapter and Faith-Based BADAC Brgy. 507, District IV of Manila.



2. The second was held on 12-13 October 2022, and attended by Pastors and religious leaders, Priests and Lay Ministers, Barangay Councilor, School Principal and selected church youth leaders from Nuestra Senora de las Flores (Baliuag), Parokya ng mga Banal na Anghel (Plaridel), Parokya ng Pagakyat sa Langit ni Hesukristo (Pulilan) and Jesus the Living Water Christian Family Church (Baliuag). Participants who were from Bulacan Province, actively participated and were capacitated during the 2-day face-to-face activity.



Training of Trainers for Universal Prevention Curricula (UPC) on Substance Use for Guidance Counselors Curriculum 5: School-Based Prevention Interventions

The three (3) days training covered Curriculum 5: School-Based Prevention Interventions on Substance Use aimed at providing an overview of the schools in society, the science behind school-based prevention interventions, and the application

of such evidence-based approaches in school settings around the world.

The DDB in partnership with the Colombo Plan Bureau conducted the Continuing Training on the Universal Prevention Curriculum for Managers and Supervisors Course 4 Family Based Prevention Intervention for ASEAN Member States. The command center was at Park Inn Hotel, North EDSA, Quezon City, on November 28-December 1, 2022.



Orientation Seminar for DDB Authorized Representatives

This is a project being implemented by the Dangerous Drugs Board for the Parole and Probation Officers designed to orient and brief the DDB Authorized Representatives relative to voluntary and compulsory confinement cases, pursuant to Article VIII of RA 9165. It also claims to assist DDB in the effective implementation of the provisions of R.A. 9165 and its implementing rules regarding the suspension of sentence of first-time minor offenders, and in the filing of petitions for voluntary and compulsory confinement.

It was conducted via Hybrid set up on 26-27 May 2022 at Madison 101 Hotel, Quezon City and participated by 241 participants composed of Chief Parole and Probation Officers (CPPOs) and Supervising Parole and Probation Officers (SPPOs) from PPA Regional Offices and representatives from DOH-TRC Mega Rehabilitation Center.

Another virtual Orientation Seminar for DDB Authorized Representatives was conducted by the DDB, in partnership with the SOCCSKSARGEN Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Center, on 28-29 November 2022. A total of 27 participants composed of doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, and other center support staff joined online.

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Online Continuing Seminar on Anti-Illegal Drug Operations and Investigation

This is a five-day seminar for law enforcers that provides updates on anti-illegal drug operations and investigation to help them become even more competent and prepared in performing their duties.

Three batches of training were conducted during the year on the following

dates: 6-10 June 2022, 15-19 August 2022 and 24-28 October 2022, respectively, with 511 trainees composed of Police Officers from the National Police College – Silang, Cavite and Cebu and PDEA's Drug Enforcement Offices from NCR, Regional Officers CAR, I, II, III, IV-A, MIMAROPA, V, IX, X, XI, XII, BARMM, Special Enforcement Service (SES), PDEA Academy and PDEA HRMS.



Webinar on Drug Abuse Prevention in the Workplace

This activity aims to update the knowledge of the employees on the Salient Features of RA 9165 and Civil Service Commission's (CSC) Memo Circular No. 13, Series 2017. On April 12, 2021, 38 employees from the Tourism Promotions Board of the Department of Tourism

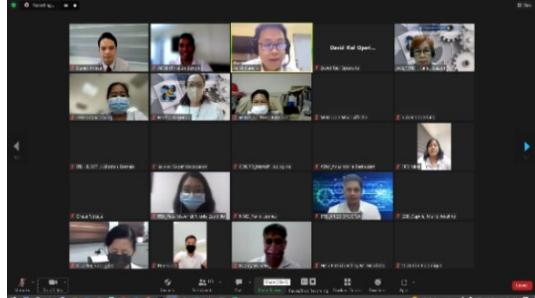
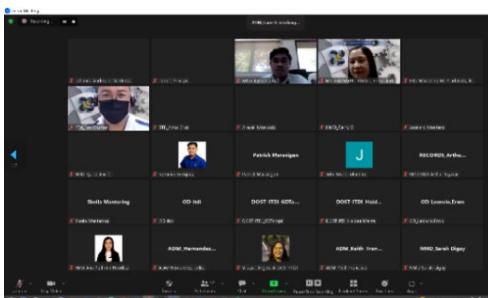
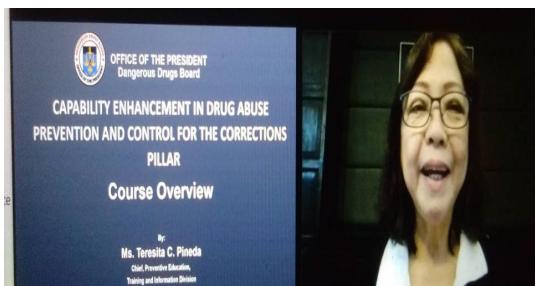
participated virtually. During the year, there were four (4) webinars conducted by the following offices:

1. Department of National Defense (DND) on 14-15 June 2022;
2. Philippine Competition Commission (PCC) on 29 June 2022;
3. Clearbridge Medical Philippines, Inc. on 15 November 2022;

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



4. Capacity Enhancement in Drug Abuse Prevention and Control for the Corrections Pillar (BJMP-NCR)
– 15-16 August 2022; and
5. Industrial Technology Development Institute (ITDI-DOST) on 22 November 2022;



Webinar on Drug Abuse Prevention and Control (DAPC)

This is a discussion highlighting the national government's campaign against

illegal drugs. In 2022, the DDB facilitated three separate webinars for 2,103 participants from different schools and universities.

Advocacy on DAPC for the At-Risk Population and Indigenous People on 31 May 2022

This is a primary prevention program intended to mobilize the Out of School Youth and Indigenous People on the prevention and control of the drug problem.



Role of Indigenous Groups on Drug Abuse Prevention – 10-13 October 2022 at Hotel Grande, Baguio City

This is a four-day seminar conducted by the city of Baguio for the Indigenous Groups to be part of government programs. A total of sixty-five (65) participants attended the above-mentioned activity composed of academicians, entrepreneurs, youth

leaders, barangay leaders composed of members of Provincial Anti-Drug Abuse Councils, Barangay Drug Abuse Councils, spiritual leaders, and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs) from the indigenous groups in Baguio City, Mountain Province, Kapangan, La Trinidad, Kalinga, Apayao, Ilocos Sur and Nueva Ecija.



Orientation on the Drug-Free Workplace Program

This virtual activity aims to revisit and review the contents and components of Drug-Free Workplace policies and programs, relative to its appropriateness and

responsiveness to the changing needs of the government and private institutions. It was conducted on 01 December 2022 via Zoom and participated by National Government Agencies (NGAs) and Local Government Units (LGUs).

Special Events

International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (IDADAIT)

This year's celebration of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking or IDADAIT was celebrated through a hybrid activity. A seminar-Workshop on Developing Effective Public Awareness Campaign Against Drug Use and Illicit Trafficking (IDADAIT 2022) was

held on 27 June 2022 at Prime Hotel, Quezon City for onsite participants.

There were 86 onsite participants composed of members of anti-drug abuse councils from various local government units (LGUs) in the National Capital Region (NCR), Region IV, PDEA, DSWD, including PETID personnel, while 500 individuals attended virtually.



Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Week (DAPC Week)

This year's week-long celebration had the theme "Addressing Drug Challenges in Health and Humanitarian Crisis," which emphasized the importance of combating

disinformation campaigns about illegal drugs that can harm the public.

During the Kick-Off Ceremony on 13 November 2022, thousands of cyclists joined the Bike Fun Ride dubbed as Bisikleta Iwas Drogen. Participants include Heads of different Agencies like PNP, MMDA, Senate, NBO, etc.).



Singapore

Amendments to Misuse of Drug Act

There has been a rapid increase in the number, types and availability of NPS across the globe. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Early Warning Advisory on New Psychoactive Substances, there were at least 1,182 NPS reported from 139 countries and territories as of December 2022. Many of these NPS have been reported in overseas journals to have no licit use. Their abuse has been linked to adverse physical and psychological reactions, including paranoia, seizures, hallucinations, and even death. CNB regularly reviews its strategies to improve the detection and regulation of NPS, including the regular listing of NPS that have emerged in the market. In response to the challenging NPS environment, CNB identified and listed an additional 13 NPS as Class A controlled drugs in 2022.

Preventive Drug Education and Advocacy Highlights of 2022

Preventive drug education (PDE) is the first line of defence in Singapore's overall drug control approach. CNB continues to seek out new ways to educate and engage the community on the harms of drugs and to strengthen the resilience of Singaporeans, especially the youths, to stay drug-free.

In 2022, CNB returned with strong ground presence with in-person preventive drug education efforts in light of the improved COVID-19 situation. CNB's strategy of generating greater awareness of the harms of drugs to encourage more to adopt the drug-free cause and embrace anti-drug advocacy helped gain support from the public for Singapore's zero-tolerance stance against drugs. Listed below are some highlights of CNB's education and engagement initiatives in 2022:

DrugFreeSG Anti-Drug Abuse Campaign

Every year, the CNB organises the DrugFreeSG Anti-Drug Abuse Campaign to rally the community in support of the 'International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking', also known as 'World Drug Day', on 26 June. The aim of the campaign is to spread awareness on the harmful effects of drugs, and to garner the public and partners' support for the drug-free cause. The theme for this year's campaign was 'Community Resilience'. Listed below were some of the campaign activities:

a) DrugFreeSG Light-Up

The DrugFreeSG Light-Up is a key anchor event which takes place on 26 June every year. On this day, Singapore's iconic buildings and structures light up in green or white, the colours of the anti-drug ribbon, from 7.30pm to 12 midnight. The e-

commerce platform Lazada Group, one of the United Against Drug Coalition (UADC) partners, virtually lit up its background in green for the day and publicised the event on its splash screen, landing page and banners.

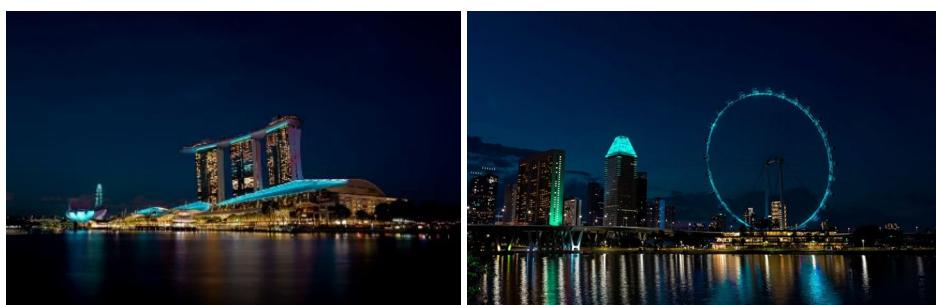
b) DrugFreeSG Pop-Up Installation

A DrugFreeSG Pop-Up Installation was held at Suntec City to allow visitors to experience multi-sensory simulation mimicking the negative effects of drugs before they are led to an educational room for information about the harms of drug abuse. The experience concluded with visitors pledging for a drug-free Singapore by folding and dropping their anti-drug

ribbon into a life-sized anti-drug ribbon structure.

c) Fringe Activities

Fringe activities were conducted with community partners to inspire anti-drug advocacy to support the promotion of the DrugFreeSG vision. Examples included collaborating with community libraries to display PDE storybooks and collaterals, co-curating a webpage about World Drug Day with Science Centre Singapore and organising a community event at Taman Jurong Community Centre with various activities like a PDE board game station and anti-drug related arts and crafts.



DrugFreeSG Light-Up partners Marina Bay Sands and Singapore Flyer illuminated in the colours of the anti-drug ribbon on 26 June 2022.



The DrugFreeSG Pop-Up Installation attracted a total of 8,500 participants.



Fringe activities - an anti-drug themed display at a community library and a community event

Microsite – Make The Right Choice

CNB collaborated with the Singapore Press Holdings (SPH) to develop a microsite, *Make The Right Choice* (@sweetspot. straitstimes.com/cnb-make-the-right-choice), which serves as a multi-faceted resource repository to engage

different target groups. It features various PDE content including an interactive long-form advertorial, gamification, a quiz about stress management and parenting articles to educate the public on the harmful consequences of drugs.



THE STRAITS TIMES

BRANDED CONTENT
She naised out on her kids' growing up years to drugs
Arrested and put into rehab, this mother of three had her turning point and now mentors others to turn their lives around



Screengrabs from the microsite. Source: Singapore Press Holdings

Outreach in Schools

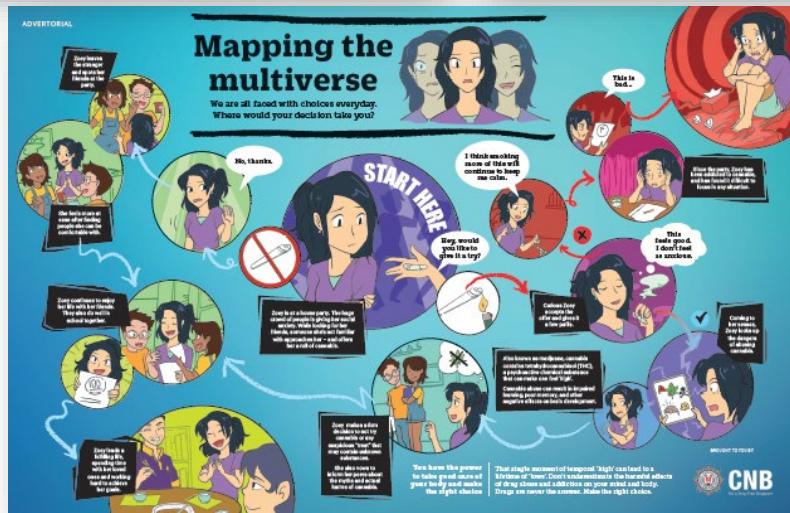
Schools provide an opportune avenue to inculcate awareness and educate students about the harms of drugs from a young age. CNB offered a range of PDE activities to target children and youths in an engaging and meaningful manner, such as talks by a Narcotics Officer, sharing session by an ex-abuser and interactive skits. CNB also collaborated with students from

Institutes of Higher Learning to co-create projects as part of their school curriculum on adopting a drug-free lifestyle.

Other Initiatives

- Anti-drug Ambassador Activity – an activity booklet designed with puzzles and storylines, targeting upper primary students.

- DrugFreeSG Video Competition – targets youths interested in video production to express their understanding about the anti-drug cause through making a short film.
- SPH School Publications – advertorials and comics with PDE messaging, distributed to primary and secondary schools that subscribe to them.
- Anti-Drug Advocate (ADA) programme – a youth-focused advocacy programme that aims to nurture young people to speak up for the drug-free cause through peer advocacy.



From L-R: Interactive skits, Drug Prevention Awareness Campaign organised by ADAs and SPH school publication

Thailand

Drug Prevention Programmes

The implementation of drug prevention in Thailand has been long conducted through the integrated collaboration by relevant agencies in the target areas to promote and focus on building drug immunity in children, youth, labor and community groups in the target villages/communities, as well as to raise awareness on drug harm in terms of health, law, and social dimension in order to reduce the drug demand in parallel with creating healthy environment on drug prevention.

The outcome document of the 30th Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) reaffirmed the commitment of the determination to prevent young people from drug abuse. Thailand's drug policy on demand reduction was developed by following the guidance in this outcome document and remain attaching to balance approaches.

The Youth Network on Drug Prevention Programme (YNDPP)



Owing to the fact that drug issues are not confined to specific regions, urban areas, rural communities, affluent neighbourhood, and disadvantaged populations are affected by drug problems. Countries in Greater Mekong Sub-region, including Thailand are located near the Golden Triangle where illicit drugs have been produced. This also affects ASEAN region very much that ASEAN

Member States adopted the ASEAN Cooperation Plan to Tackle Illicit Drug Production and Trafficking in the Golden Triangle.

To raise awareness and recognition on the danger of drug abuse in the countries in Greater Mekong Sub-region, through the youth programme, the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) organized

“Youth Network on Drug Prevention Programme.” The ONCB invited 6 youth representatives aged between 18 – 23 years old from countries in Greater Mekong Sub-region comprising China, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Viet Nam, and Thailand.

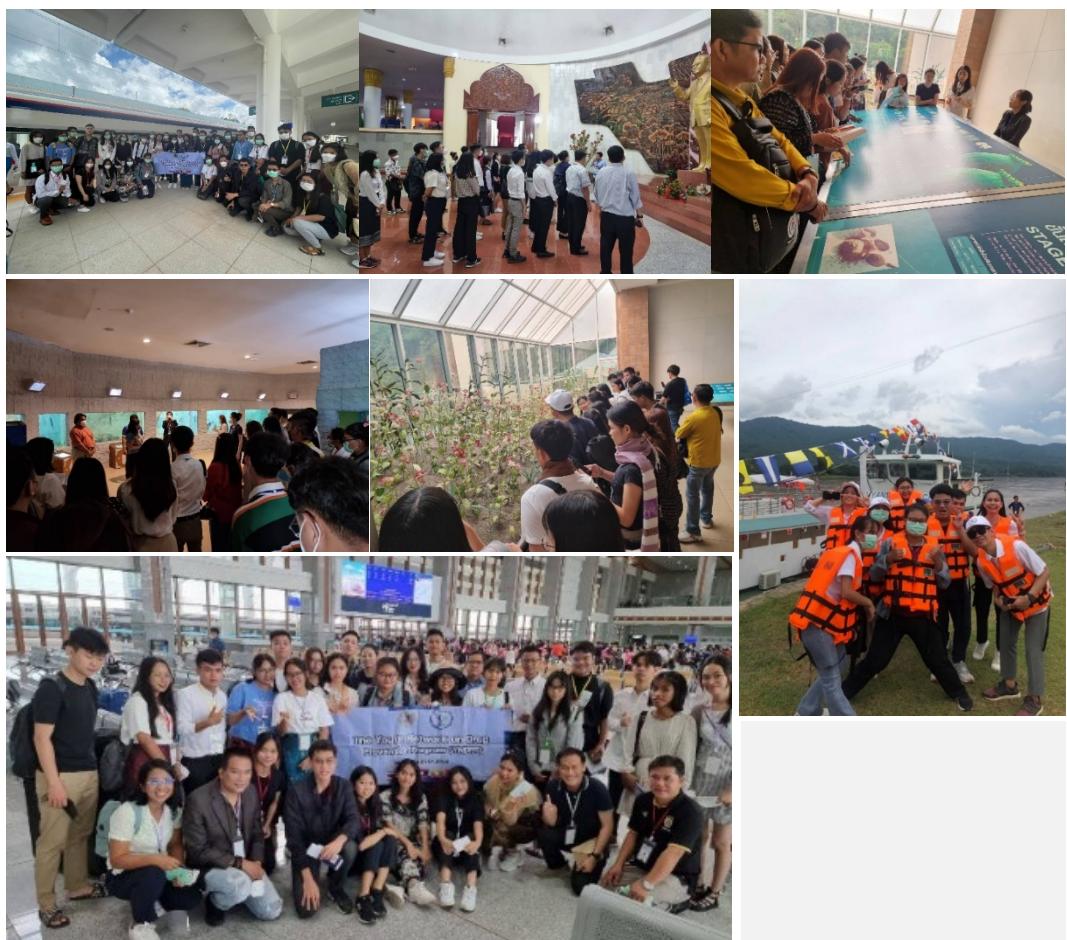
The objective of the programme is to provide a platform for young adults to share

and exchange their knowledge, experiences, ideas and creativity. Moreover, the programme will enhance connection and cooperation among young adults in Greater Mekong Sub-region countries in carrying out drug prevention activities in their own countries.



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Youth representatives and their mentors attended the programme in Thailand and neighboring countries for 10 days. To provide knowledge about the cultures and geopolitics, ONCB arranged study tours in Bangkok Metropolitan Region, Udon Thani, and Nong Khai of Thailand, and Vientiane, Lunag Nam Tha, and Huay Xay of Lao PDR for the representatives.



The youth representatives were also given the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences on drug prevention initiatives and measures during

their visit at Udon Thani Rajabhat University, Udon Thani Province of Thailand and National University of Laos, Lao PDR respectively.



The programme further included ship cruising from Huay Xay of Lao PDR to Tachileik, Shan State of Myanmar, and to

Chiang Rai Province of Thailand, for the youth representatives to study drug trafficking routes and drug situation in GMS.



In connection with learning about the drug syndicates tactics on smuggling drugs into the regions and drug situation, they also understood the relation between alternative

development and drug prevention through a study visit Roi Jai Rak Project in Chiang Mai Province. This session allowed the participants to see the approach in addressing the

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022

regional drug problems by tackling root causes and reducing demand. The project focuses on promoting social, economic, and cultural alternatives to drug cultivation, production, and consumption. This project allowed the participant to relate and apply the knowledge on drug prevention projects to their country's contexts.

Feedback

The Youth Network on Drug Prevention Programme was successfully organized.

The Programme received good feedback from the youth participants as they had opportunity to learn on drug prevention as well as connect with friends from Greater Mekong Sub-region countries.

Feedback



Sin Kongvillai is with Khamleak Hji and 2 others at ទីរាជា.
3d · Chiang Rai ·

Collecting the experience one step at a time. Today, we visited Rong khun temple, Rong Sua Ten temple, Art Bridge, Lalita restaurant and others.

[Show original · Rate translation](#)



NACD នគរបាលជាតិក្រោមនៃក្រសួងពេទ្យប្រចាំប្រចាំឆ្នាំៗ៖
ត្រូវបានចូលរួម 8 NACD · Follow
8h ·

Cambodia's three top youth students have returned to their homeland after participating in the Mekong River Youth Drug Prevention Net... See more

[Show original · Rate translation](#)



im_hanhdo 22h · See translation >

Feedback



Sopheak Punlok 2d ·

A thousand memories behind this certificate and it is the best moment that we spend together. #Cambodia #yndp



Sarawuth Khamwong is feeling lovely... 3m ·

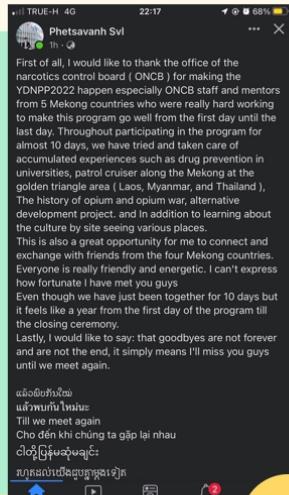
No words can describe how much I love you.

Thanks to YDNP2022 for the new experiences that I've faced both in Laos PDR and Thailand (my motherland), I've learned a lot of new things, especially how to prevent illegal drugs and the law that is related to drugs in our community, which is related to my major, which is law student.

Thanks to ONCB Thailand and ONCB Laos for your good hospitality and food in the camp, I especially enjoy Laotian cuisine and will never forget how delicious it is!

Thanks to all the delegates and mentors from other countries, we've met each other and worked a lot together. I want to say that you guys are really kind to me and make me happy every time we see each other. I'll remember all of you from the bottom of my heart.

Last, I would like to say, which part of the world that you're living in right now, you're still in my mind and my heart every time that I breathe.



Phetsavanh Sv 1h ·

First of all, I would like to thank the office of the narcotics control board (ONCB) for making the YDNP2022 happen especially ONCB staff and mentors from 5 Mekong countries who were really hard working to make this program go well from the first day until the last day. Throughout participating in the program for almost 10 days, we have tried and taken care of accumulated experiences such as drug prevention in universities, patrol cruiser along the Mekong at the golden triangle area (Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand), The history of opium and opium war, alternative development project, and in addition to learning about the culture by site seeing various places. This is also a great opportunity for me to connect and exchange with friends from the four Mekong countries. Everyone is really friendly and energetic. I can't express how fortunate I have met you guys Even though we have just been together for 10 days but it feels like a year from the first day of the program till the closing ceremony. Lastly, I would like to say: that goodbyes are not forever and are not the end, it simply means I'll miss you guys until we meet again.

အសែនជាតិខ្លួន
អស់រាជាណាចក្រខែ
Till we meet again
Chờ đến khi chúng ta gặp lại nhau
ຄວຍຫຼຸ້າຫຼັກຫຼູກ:

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



Way Forward

The success of the Youth Network on Drug Prevention Programme (YNDPP) will

be expanded to cover ASEAN Member States as to strengthen and mobilise the youth from ASEAN Member States to join hands in fighting against drugs.



Drug Education

With the cooperation between ONCB and Ministry of Education, we have included the curriculum on drug prevention in the basic education for preschoolers, and the students of primary schools, high schools, and universities. Schools typically incorporate drug education into their health

education subject. The curriculum consists of topics related to drug classification, effects, risks, consequences, and strategies for prevention and harm reduction.

Drug education programs are designed to be age-appropriate, based on the developmental stages of students. The

content and delivery methods are designed appropriately to learning abilities of students at different grade levels.

Students earn opportunity to develop their essential life skills including include

critical thinking, problem-solving, communication, refusal skills, stress management, and coping strategies. They are able to make responsible decisions and resist peer pressure.



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and coping strategies. They are able to make responsible decisions and resist peer pressure.

Enhancing Executive Function

The ONCB recognize the importance of developing and strengthening executive function skills in children aged between 2 – 6 years old. This approach can enhance these cognitive abilities so that the children can better regulate their behavior, make informed decisions, and develop the necessary skills to resist drug use. With these skills children can make healthy choices that can go together with their long-term goals and values. The ONCB supported the budget on story book publishing, audio stories designing, and distributing puzzle games to schools nationwide.



Storybooks stimulate a child's imagination and critical thinking skills. They encourage children to think creatively, make connections between events, and predict outcomes. This enhances their problem-solving abilities and overall cognitive development. Additionally, storybooks often

portray characters facing various emotions and situations. Reading these stories, children learn about empathy, emotions, and how to deal with different situations. It helps them understand and express their feelings in a healthy and constructive manner.

Infographic and Instructional Media on Drug Prevention are available for people and education officers to download on website: <https://www.oncb.go.th/Home/Pages/Drug-knowledge/main.aspx>



2,615 Boxes of game daily routine
for the 9 – 12-year-olds



804 Boxes of game daily routine
for the 13 – 15-year-olds

Dec 2020 – Mar 2021 : Developing and contributing 3,419 game boxes for children and youth in 556 schools of Chiang Rai province to fortify their analytical and conceptual skills.

In terms of puzzle games, they do not give only entertainment for children but also provide a great number of cognitive and social benefits. They promote the development of essential skills and abilities that children can apply to their lives. Puzzle games develop children's critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Children are required to analyze the given situations and find solutions to complete the puzzle. This enhances their cognitive abilities, such as

logical reasoning, systematic managing, spatial awareness, and pattern recognition. Equivalently, children can enjoy puzzle games individually or in a group setting. Playing in groups, children are given opportunity to build their friendship with others. Collaborative puzzle-solving encourages social interaction, communication, and teamwork. Children are allowed share ideas and work together to reach their common goal.

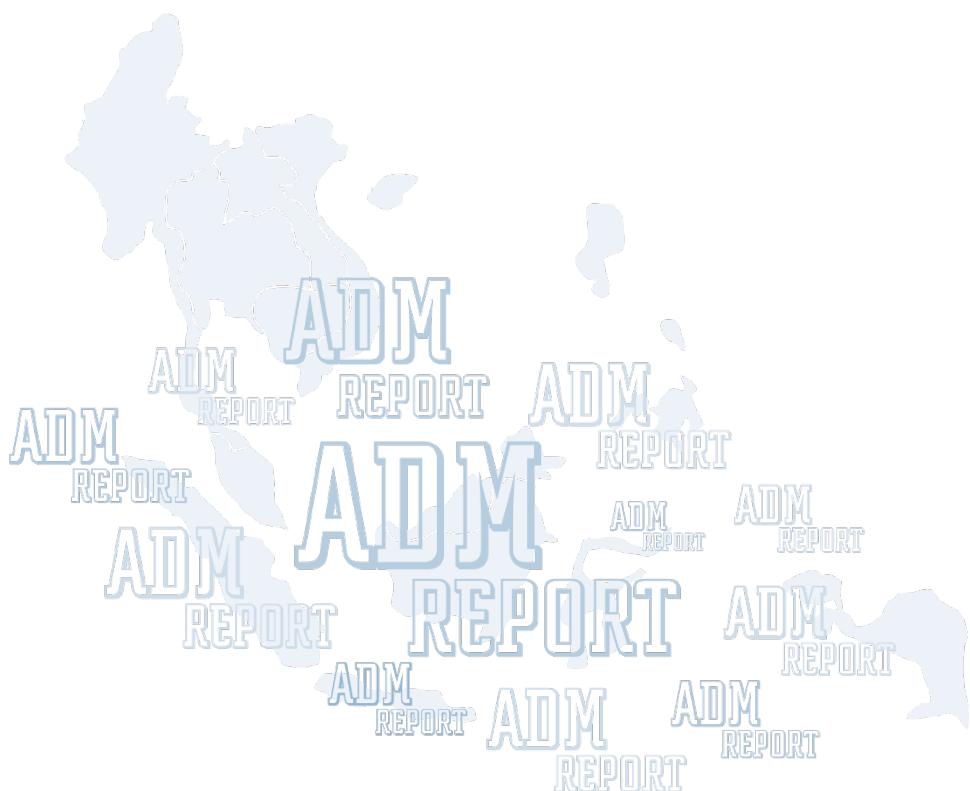
Creative Communication on Social Media, “Young Kid Be Smart”



Creative communication and engaging activities can be highly effective in capturing attention of people especially teenager groups. It allows officers working on drug prevention to convey important messages and promote healthy behaviors for young people in online society. ONCB initiated the short video contest, “Young Kid Be Smart,” collaborating with influential celebrities. The activity targeted on young people aged between 13 – 24 years old. The young contestants were required to make a short video on TikTok not exceeding 1 minute. A short video must convey the message related harms of drugs to raise awareness

on drug problems in society. The activity drew 406 young people to join the contest comprising 65 people for individual competition and 346 people of 92 team competition. The 27 works from 12 individual competitors and 15 teams were awarded, totally 558,000 baht. The awarded videos were publicized on other social media platforms to create drug prevention trends on online platforms. Consequently, including all platforms where the short videos were posted, there were totally 3,724,487 impressions, 2,481,070 reaches, and 643,957 engagements.

ANNEX



TYPES OF TEA BAG PACKAGING IN MALAYSIA 2022



'GOLDEN YELLOW'



'LIME GREEN'



'QING SHAN'



'GUAN YIN WANG'



'HIGH GRADE GREEN TEA'



'MING CHA'



'MING CHA'



'CHINA TEA'

TYPES OF TEA BAG PACKAGING IN MALAYSIA 2021



'GOLDEN YELLOW'



'LIME GREEN'



'QING SHAN'



'TOP GRADE GREEN TEA' /
'YELLOW GOLD LEAF'



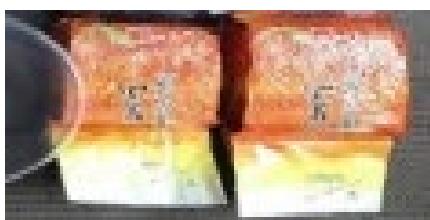
'HIGH GRADE GREEN TEA'



'CHINA TEA'



'CHINESE TEA GIFT'



'ALISHAN JIN XIAN TEA'

TYPES OF TEA BAG PACKAGING IN MALAYSIA 2017-2020



'EMPEROR'



'PIN WEI'



'JASMINE TEA'

ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



Safe Mekong Coordination Center : China Laos Myanmar, Thailand Cambodia Vietnam
 Report summary of situations of Safe Mekong Operation Plan between 1 January 2021 to 31 December 2021

Narcotics/Chemicals		Unit	6 countries	Cambodia	China	Laos	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
Case/Offender	Case/Person	1,217/148	29/80	55/122	49/59	59/91,186	310/391	174/308	
Narcotics and Chemicals									
Acetic	Kg.	4.26	-	-	-	-	4.26	-	-
Acetone	liter.	3,000.00	-	-	-	-	3,000.00	-	-
Acetonitrile	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetyl Chloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Alcohol	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Allylbenzene	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonium Chloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonium Formate	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonium Hydroxide	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anthranilic Acid	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzene	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzyl Chloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzyldehyde	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bromo Phenyl Ethyl Ketone	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
cafffeine	Kg.	17,780.00	-	-	-	8,425.00	9,355.00	-	-
Calcium Carbonate	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carbon	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CH3OH	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chloroform	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Codeine	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cyclohexane	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

source of information : Safe mekong Coordination Center (SMCC);
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ASEAN DRUG MONITORING REPORT 2022



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Narcotics/Chemicals	Unit	6 countries	Cambodia	China	Laos	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
Ethyl Acetate	liter..	24,960.00	-	-	-	-	24,960.00	-
Ethylenimine	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethyldine Diacetate	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hydrobromic	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hydrochloric Acid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hydrogen Peroxide	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl Isobutyl Ketone	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methylene Chloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-Buyl Acetate	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-Buyl Alcohol	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phenol	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phosphoric Acid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phosphorous Pentachloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phosphorous Trichloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Piperidine	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Potassium Cyanide	Kg.	750.00	-	-	-	-	750.00	-
Sec-Buyl Alcohol	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Acetate Trihydrate	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Carbonate	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Cyanide	Kg.	66,642.00	-	-	-	-	66,642.00	-
Sodium Hydroxide Powder	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Hydroxide	liter.	12,500.00	-	-	-	-	12,500.00	-

source of information : Safe mekong Coordination Center (SMCC);
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Narcotics/Chemicals	Unit	6 countries	Cambodia	China	Laos	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
Sodium Hypochlorite	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sulfuric Acid	liter.	18,280.00	-	-	-	-	18,280.00	-
Thionyl Chloride	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thionyl Disulfate	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Toluene	kg.	40,100.00	-	-	-	40,100.00	-	-
Tramadol	capsule.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trichloroethylene	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
alprazolam	Tablets.	120,000.00	-	-	-	120,000.00	-	-
Cocaine	kg.	1.98	1.98	-	-	-	-	-
Cold Medicine	Bottle.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diazepam	Tablets.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ecstasy	Tablets.	3,621,768.00	3,254,628.00	-	-	124,250.00	47,050.00	195,840.00
Cannabis	kg.	42,252.19	0.00	-	572.00	34.34	41,612.90	32.94
Heroin	kg.	6,975.36	318.20	554.41	306.25	3,801.94	1,625.78	368.79
Ice	g.	25,353,979.56	890,041.55	304,615.69	2,868,000.00	12,626,853.90	7,944,942.34	719,526.08
Ketamine	g.	4,466,868.66	2,830,780.12	297.00	-	760,920.00	562,000.00	322,871.54
Kratom	g.	108,501.87	-	-	-	108,501.87	-	-
LSD	sheet.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Medicine	Tablets.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Opium	kg.	3,668.41	-	24.29	3.70	2,247.44	264.00	1,128.99
Yaba	Tablets.	618,305,142.00	22,500.00	6,850,780.00	131,951,327.00	173,150,805.00	298,189,427.00	3,340,303.00
1-Phenyl-2-Propanone	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Narcotics/Chemicals	Unit	6 countries	Cambodia	China	Laos	Myanmar	Thailand	Vietnam
3,4-Methylsenedioxyphenyl-2-Propanone	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4-Anilino-N-Phenethyl(piperidine	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetic Anhydride	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
alpha-Phenylacetocetanitrile	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Benzyl Cyanide	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ephedrin	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ergometrine	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ergotamine	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethyl ether	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isosafrole	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lyseric Acid	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-Acetylanthranilic Acid	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-Phenethyl-4-Piperidone	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norephedrine	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phenylacetic Acid	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Piperonal	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Potassium Permanganate	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pseudoecephedrine	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Safrole	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ammonium Nitrate	kg.	28,785.00	-	-	-	28,785.00	-	-
Potassium Phosphate	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
MDDP2P	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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ethanol	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unknow Chemicals	kg.	84,408.00	84,357.00	-	-	-	38.00	-
DEXTROSE	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
EthylVanillin	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
powder chemical	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flavoring liquid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Ethoxide	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chemical reagent	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Titanium(N) Methoxide	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
2-Bromoethyl chloroformate	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl Mercaptaw	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stimulant Powder	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Methyl Alcohol Acid	liter.	28,260.00	-	-	-	-	28,260.00	-
Di-Tartaric Acid	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diaminopropionic Acid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Brown Charcoal	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Coral bone	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Urea	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tri Fluoro Acetic Acid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixture of Methanol Nitric Acid	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dioxohexanhydro	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dimethylhydyan Dioxohexahydro	kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Dichloroethane	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PROPIONYL CHLORIDE	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixture of LITHIUM IODIDE	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Morphine	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixture of Methylamine Sulfuric Chloride	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PHENETHYLAMINE	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
NEODYMIUM TITANATE Arsenic Trichloride	(liter).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
sodium Acetate	Kg.	4,000.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dithiocoxamide 92%	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dicyclohexylacetic	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Polypropylene Acid	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Trifluoracetophenone Acid	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ethyl Malol	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Caustic Soda	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
BENZYL ETHER	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
N-isopropyl Benzylamine	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
សិរីអាមេរិក	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sodium Chloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Potassium Chloride	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ឯកុំណូនធផ្សែន	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
chemical	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
LORAZEPAM	tablets.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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Morphine	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meth Powder	Kg.	7.00	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dibenzoyl-L-Tartaric Acid	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ဒုက္ခနာဂါရိအေးစွဲ	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acetic acid Sodium	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
effervescent C	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Theophylline	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dichloromethane	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tartaric Acid	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dimethyl Carbonate	liter.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
CATHIONE	Kg.	15.00	15.00	-	-	-	-	-
MDMA	Kg.	150.00	150.00	-	-	-	-	-
Nimelazepam	tablets.	19,500.00	19,500.00	-	-	-	-	-
BISMUTH (III) OXIDE	liter..	9,000.00	-	-	-	9,000.00	-	-
Sulfurous Dichloride	liter.	13,600.00	-	-	-	13,600.00	-	-
Dimethyl Sulfate	liter.	8,400.00	-	-	-	8,400.00	-	-
ဆီသံပြု၏	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
FUB-AMB (Cannabinoid)	Kg.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nimelazepam	Kg.	19,500.00	19,500.00	-	-	-	-	-
ဆီသံပြု၏။	g.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

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