

# THAILAND NARCOTICS CONTROL ANNUAL REPORT | 2022



**OFFICE OF THE NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD  
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**





## Preface

The Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), as the main agency in coordinating policy, plan, budget and implementation on drug prevention, suppression and tackling drug problem with all concerned agencies both public and private sectors, prepared this report to compile the operational result of all the integrated agencies under the Narcotics Control Action Plan 2022, which comprised 5 measures, namely international cooperation, drug suppression and enforcement of laws, drug prevention, drug treatment and integrated management.

This report presents the result of the narcotics control efforts of the fiscal year 2022 which comprised 6 parts, namely the 1<sup>st</sup> part-the connectivity of the plan in each level, the 2<sup>nd</sup> part-the government policy, the 3<sup>rd</sup> part-the summary of the Narcotics Control Action Plan 2022, the 4<sup>th</sup> part-drug situation, 5<sup>th</sup> part-policy-based mobilization and the 6<sup>th</sup> part-the result of the implementation in each measure.

The ONCB sincerely hopes that this report will be useful to all the concerned agencies and the interested general public, and last but not least, we would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all concerned agencies both domestical and international agencies which have continually and persistently provided valuable cooperation.

Office of the Narcotics Control Board  
Ministry of Justice



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# 2022 Highlight





## 1. The Project on the Development of International Youth Network for Drug Prevention in Mekong Sub-Region



On August 16, 2022, H.E. Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice presided over the opening ceremony of the Development of the Youth Network on Drugs Prevention Program (YNDPP) in Mekong Sub-region. He was accompanied by Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General of the NCB. The program was participated by 35 youth representatives from 5 countries namely Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Vietnam and Thailand. It was organized during August 15 - 24, 2022 with the objectives to strengthen the power of the youth in solving drug problem in the Golden Triangle area, which is a strategic area, so that they should be ready for social challenges in the future. The Minister of Justice emphasized that the project was aimed to increase knowledge and experiences from drug study-visit in Mekong area which included the northern and northeastern parts of Thailand, the areas in Lao PDR and Myanmar. Moreover, this program would help build-up the youth network in Mekong Sub-region on drug prevention as according to the context of each country.

The youth network was considered very important in helping develop and push forward changes in society as the youth had creative power and potential if they were developed in term of building-up life skill properly to their ages. They would be a vital tool in mobilizing drug prevention. Besides, he also reiterated the ONCB to carry out the international cooperation measures as according to the approaches set by the government which focused on the youth both inside and outside the country by developing their knowledge in various fields on drug prevention so that they could use as their basis in solving drug problem and keep themselves alert on the ever-changing drug situation.



## 2. The 43<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD)



On November 1, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General of the NCB led the Thai delegation to attend the 43<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the meeting was participated by the representatives of ASEAN Member States and the representative of the ASEAN Secretariat. The meeting was aimed to follow-up the progress of drug control of the ASEAN Member States as well as to strengthen closer cooperation and to join force in setting measures for better drug control. In addition, ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report 2021 was officially launched, the Report was initiated by Thailand under ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center (ASEAN-NARCO).

Upon this occasion, the Secretary-General of the NCB gave the statement on the result of drug control in Thailand during the past year in which he emphasized the necessity of ASEAN cooperation in controlling Sodium Cyanide, Benzin-Chloride and Benzin Cyanide which were increasingly used in drug production in the Golden Triangle Area, which was a crucial problem. He, therefore, requested all ASEAN Member States to intensify the checking and monitoring the leaking of those chemicals to the drug production area.



### 3. The Opening Ceremony of the 3 -Month Urgent Action Plan on Prevention, Suppression and Tackling of Drug Problem as according to the Government's Policy for the Fiscal Year 2023

On November 23, 2022, H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, the Prime Minister presided over the opening ceremony of the 3 - Month Urgent Action Plan on Prevention, Suppression and Tackling of Drug Problem as according to the Government's Policy for the Year 2023 at the Royal Thai Army Club, Vibhavadi-Rangsit Road.

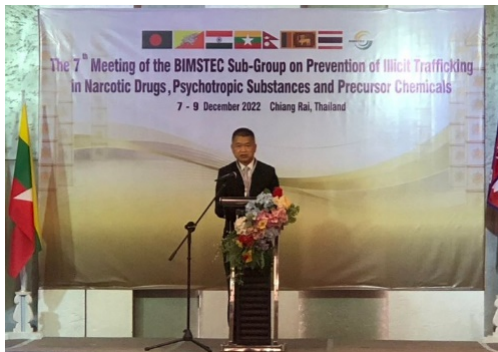
On this occasion, the Prime Minister gave the policy on overcoming drug problem that it needed to be continually carried out as drug was a complicated problem as drug trafficker kept on changing their working method. The problem greatly impacted the national security, society and economy, so it needed Integration effort of all concerned agencies at all levels, both domestically and internationally. The government set the drug control policy as the national agenda and amended the laws related to drug to ensure that the responsible officials could work more effectively.

In 2023, the ONCB introduced 6 measures 1 the proto-type area for 18 urgent missions by emphasizing on 7 points of operation which comprised 1) inspecting and controlling the import and export of precursor and chemical which could be used in drug production, 2) investigating, expanding the results, demolishing drug syndicate and asset forfeiture, 3) setting up the National Drug Information Integration Center by the ONCB with the cooperation of the concerned agencies in integrating the connection and the exchange of data, 4) monitoring, following-up and processing the people's complaints received from the ONCB's hot line 1386, 5) searching, screening drug user/addict and those who had psychiatric symptoms from drug use to bring them into treatment system by cooperating with the National Police, Ministry of Public Health and Ministry of Interior, 6) reducing troubles from drug problem and building the confidence in the people by focusing on the area of village/community, increasing the role of village/community and leaders in those areas so that they could serve as an essential tool on drug prevention and 7) addressing drug problem in a comprehensive way.





#### 4. The 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Sub Working-Group on the Prevention of the Trafficking of Psychotropic Substances, Chemical and Precursor (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi - Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation: BIMSTEC)



On December 7, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General of the ONCB, led the Thai delegation, presided over the Opening Ceremony of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of BIMSTEC Sub - Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and Precursor Chemical (SG - NDPSPC Meeting) under the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi - Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMTEC) at the Heritage Chiang Rai Hotel and Convention, Chiang Rai Province which was organized during December 6-10, 2022. The meeting was participated by representatives from 7 member countries namely Thailand, People's Republic of Bangladesh, Kingdom of Bhutan, Republic of India, Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Republic of Nepal, Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka as well as the representative from BIMSTEC Secretariat, with the total of 28 representatives. This was considered the 1<sup>st</sup> face-to-face meeting of this sub working-group after the pandemic of COVID 19 and Thailand served as the host country.

During the opening ceremony, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, the Secretary-General of the NCB welcomed all delegates and he mentioned about the drug situation of BIMSTEC member countries which received impact from illicit drug trafficking from both the Golden Crescent Area and the Golden Triangle Area, they also faced more severe of trans -border drug trafficking, more technology and on-line trade were used. As a result, data exchange between the member countries was pivotal, thus he requested all members to push for the setting up of the Electronic BIMSTEC Drug Offences Monitoring Desk (BDOMD) to serve as immediate data exchange tool. The Secretary-General expressed the strong determination of the ONCB through the International Narcotics Control College which would host the training on the control of chemical and illicit drug trafficking to the law enforcement officials of the member countries within March 2023 to support the potential development of the officials for more effective cooperation based on the principle of sharing responsibility and partnership.



## 5. The Consultative Meeting on the Measures to Intercept Precursor and Chemical from Entering the Production Source under “The 4-Year Safe Mekong Joint Operation Plan” for Drug Control in 6 Countries (2019-2023)



On December 26, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, the Secretary-General of the NCB, presided over the Consultative Meeting on the Measures to Intercept Precursor and Chemical from Entering the Production Source under “ Safe Mekong Action Plan” for Drug Control in 6 Countries within the Period of 4 Years (2019 - 2023) at the Heritage Pattaya Beach Resort, Chonburi Province during December 25 - 27, 2022 with the participation of Pol.Col. Inpong Chanthavongsa, the Secretary-General of Lao National Commission for Drug Control (LCDC) and Pol.Brig.Gen Win Naing, the Joint Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC).

The Secretary-General of the NCB emphasized on the policy of H.E. Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice, on the interception of precursor and chemical from entering the production source in the Golden Triangle Area. The meeting unanimously agreed to jointly intercept and control drug, precursor and chemical by appointing coordinator at all levels as well as providing cooperation and support in data exchange, the result of forensic detection as well as increasing the monitoring and control of major chemicals which included Sodium Cyanide, Benzin Cyanide and Benzin Chloride which might be used in drug production by checking the legal amount of import and export of those chemical.

Besides, the ONCB proposed various countries to control the chemical called “Hydroxylamine” which was used in producing ketamine by setting up the equal strict control measure especially among the Mekong Sub-Region countries, pushing for the safety standard on controlling, monitoring and destruction of chemical and drug to become an international agenda of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) before further proposing to the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). The ONCB also proposed that the countries which suffered from drug should provide financial support for constructing the pollution-free incineration furnace for destroying drug and chemical. The Secretary-General of the NCB explained about the measures that Thailand would promote the strict control of buying and selling of drug producing equipment and the ONCB was ready to provide training on collecting evidence to the Lao PDR and the Republic Union of Myanmar, to organize study-visit on drug prevention in the youth group as well as other trainings by the International Narcotics Control College (INCC), which was at present under the development both in terms of place and curriculum to increase effectiveness of the officials in the Mekong Sub-Region.



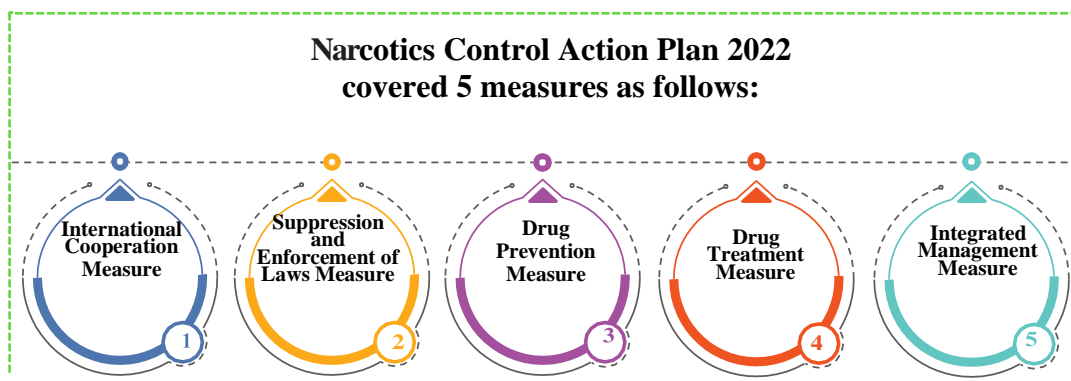
# **Chapeter 1: The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2022**



## Framework and Connectivity

The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2022 was declared on October 5, 2021 as the mobilizing plan to drive the drug control and to support the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021).

This Plan applied the concept of solving drug problem with new approaches due to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session 2016 on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) which gave priority on public health, alternative policy and proportionate punishment which is in proper proportion with offence. The Plan had the connectivity with the implementation as according to the National Strategic Plan on Security, the Master Plan under the National Strategic Plan on Security, the Sub-plan on Preventing and Solving the Problems that Affected Security, the National Reform Plan (Amended Version), the National Economic and Social Development Plan, the Narcotics Control Action Plan 2020 - 2022, other fields of Action Plan, the major policy of the government and the related resolutions of the Cabinet.



### 1. International Cooperation Measure

The measure comprised 1 approach focusing on strengthening policy cooperation in the Mekong Sub-Region and cooperation both inside and outside the region to intercept precursor and chemical before entering the production area, to seek for international cooperation to increase knowledge and skills as well as to use new technology through the International Narcotics Control College which would serve as training and development center for international data exchange for the benefit in analyzing situation and in setting the policy and roles in international cooperation.

### 2. Suppression and Enforcement of Laws Measure

The measures comprised 2 following approaches;

2.1 Drug interception approach which focused on integration with the security agencies to intercept the illicit drug trafficking from entering the production source or the third country before reaching the inner part of the country as well as to stop using Thailand as a transit country in drug trafficking to the third country by road, sea and air routes. More technology would be introduced for investigation.

2.2 The approach to suppress illicit drug trafficking syndicates by focusing on eradicating both domestic and international drug traffickers and drug trafficking



syndicates as well as transnational crimes by integrating with the concerned agencies in asset forfeiture in drug related offences as according to the approaches set in the Narcotics Code 2021, the Anti-Money Laundering Act 1999 and Tax Measures as according to the Revenue Code of Thailand. Moreover, development of personnel capacity in asset forfeiture in order to have knowledge, understanding in enforcing the laws, new method and operational procedures in asset forfeiture as according to the Narcotics Code 2021. This would include the using of new digital technology, initiatives to support working process, as well as to launch the operation toward drug-importing, drug-transit, drug-storage villages, avoiding check-point village and village/community with drug epidemic.

### **3. Drug Prevention Measure**

The measure comprised the following 3 approaches;

3.1 The approach to strengthen village/community along the border and to provide alternative development which focused on tackling drug problem in major areas along the border by overcoming the root of the problem and strengthen village/community as according to the context and situation of each area for the benefit in interception, prevention of illicit drug trafficking and drug use in the area.

3.2 Proper drug prevention approach in each target group by enhancing drug immunity that suited each target group including the children/youth group, and labor group to build- up appropriate knowledge, thought and skills so that they would not get involved with drug both in terms of usage and trafficking.

3.3 The approach to promote the participation of family and community which were considered very close to the target groups in preventing and overcoming drug problem in order to successfully and continually build-up drug immunity in each target group in each area.

### **4. Drug Treatment Measure**

The drug treatment measure comprised 1 approach focusing on looking after drug addicts to ensure that they could access to treatment and social rehabilitation to reduce the social impact of drug by focusing on screening process which suited to the level of drug consumption of each patient, providing treatment and rehabilitation to drug users, drug consumers and drug addicts as according to the standard of the Ministry of Public Health and the concerned legal framework. This included providing social rehabilitation by integrating with all parties concerned in helping and supporting them to improve their quality of life in terms of living quarters, education, occupation as well as following-up and after care until they could return to the society and live a normal life.

### **5. Integrated Management Measure**

The measure comprised of 2 following approaches;

5.1 Special activities approach by innovation management in solving drug problem, development of implementation mechanism, arrangement for effective, modern and update control system, plan for research and development, implementation new model of alternative development which was beneficial to solve drug problem so that it would not impact public health, sociality and economy.





5.2 Integrated management approach by focusing on integrated operation plan, plan, project and budget to be connected and in line with the National Strategic Plan, the Master Plan under the National Strategic Plan, the 12<sup>th</sup> National Economic and Social Development Plan, the National Reform Plan (Amended Version) and the Drug Control Action Plan 2020 - 2022. Arrangement was conducted for supervising, following-up, and evaluating both in terms of qualitative and quantitative of implementation in the fields of prevention, suppression and tackling drug problem, asset examination, treatment and rehabilitation of drug addict and other operational issues as according to the Narcotics Code 2021 as well as the support was provided for research and development, academic work and knowledge development in various issues, development/revision/enactment of the related laws and regulations to cover all dimensions in solving drug problem and last but not least to develop the capacity of drug control personnel.

### The Integration of Drug Control Implementation

The Narcotics Control Action Plan 2022 was the integrated management plan with all the concerned agencies, with the ONCB serves as the main host agency to work in integrated manner with 9 ministries, 26 agencies and 2 government agencies which are neither under the Office of the Prime Minister nor bureaus, altogether 28 agencies.





## **Chapter 2: Drug Situation and Trends**



## **1. World Drug Situation**

The World Drug Report 2022 of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) revealed that the opium poppy cultivation area world-wide had tendency to reduce, but the new production technology helped increase higher yield per area, whereas the synthetic drug from amphetamine and methamphetamine derivatives became the problem that all countries gave priority to since they were expanding in many regions. This was in couple with the illicit drug producers' syndicates of these drugs used precursors and chemicals which were less controlled to replace the strictly controlled ones. Moreover, after relaxing the controlling measures of the pandemic of Corona Virus 2019 (COVID-19), illicit drug trade became more severe and the international illicit drug trafficking had tendency to increase in all modes.

## **2. Regional Drug Situation**

The Golden Triangle area, the largest drug production source in Asia, produced various types of drugs to the global market, it was found that the opium poppy cultivation area increased 2 percent despite the fact that during the year 2013 - 2020 the opium poppy cultivation area decreased continually while the synthetic drug production of methamphetamine group had tendency to increase constantly. According to the analysis of the seized ICE in Thailand, it was found that most of them, ephedrine was used as their precursor. It was also found that the large quantity of caffeine was smuggled from Lao PDR to Thailand through Loei Province, in the Northeast to the production area in Myanmar passing through Mae Sod District, Tak Province in the West. The political context in Myanmar remained an important condition which led the armed ethnic group to get involved with drug, in couple with the fact that drug criminal organization which had potential to get access to chemicals and modern production technology, made movement in the area, at the same time they tried to seek for new production area for a synthetic drug, ketamine, in Cambodia. It was believed that the main market of ketamine, produced in Cambodia, were the countries in East Asia. After the demolishing of the production area in Cambodia, the ketamine trafficking syndicate still tried to use Cambodia as trafficking route of ketamine to destination countries.

## **3. Drug Situation in Thailand**

### **3.1 Illicit Smuggling of Drugs**

Thailand's geopolitics was conducive to being used as both market and regional gateway of drugs, be it Yaba, ICE, heroin, ketamine or cannabis, a large volume of them were illicitly smuggled into the country, they were increasing annually. Most drugs were found in the northern border, followed by the provinces located along Mekong River in the upper Northeast and the provinces in the western border. The illicit smuggling of drugs was carried out in various forms depending on the factors of environment, opportunity and suppression measures, those factors were used in setting mode, method and smuggling area. Besides, illicit smuggling of drugs from outside the region, such as ecstasy or Ya-E which was illicitly smuggled through international airport and international post parcel from Europe, was on the rise.

The same as cocaine which originated in South America, after relaxing controlling measures on COVID-19, the West African group returned to make movement again by often using international airports. However, it was noticed that the



seizure of drugs in MDMA group or ecstasy and drugs which were abused, was increasing.

They hit the market by using new products such as coffee-mixed with drugs in packets, HAPPY WATER and Erimin5, these drugs were smuggled across Mekong River in Lao PDR, entered Thailand in the Northeast, and were smuggled through international airport from the origin countries in Europe.

### **3.2 Illicit Drug Trade**

Drugs such as ICE, heroin and ketamine had their illicit market which were mostly outside Mekong Sub-region, Thailand was used as gateway due to the convenient transportation, the multinational drug syndicate liked to use the country as a base for illicit drug trade through port, airport, international postal parcel as well as border checkpoint. Though Thailand could continually seize more synthetic drugs, a large volume of them were for further sent out to other countries.

### **3.3 The Problem of Illicit Drug Trafficking**

The illicit smuggling of drugs and the changing economic and social situation led to more severe illicit drug trafficking, drug trafficking group at all levels could provide various types of drugs in a large amount, on-line social network became a major channel for drug trafficking that was used, so drug trafficking and epidemic was rapidly increasing especially retailing as buyer and small-time trafficker could make direct contact, they could also use postal parcel service and freight transportation service which had several service providers, difficult for the official to inspect. Sometimes, buyer disguised to be rider who received and sent parcel, so they could easily send drug to their client. In addition, drug use behavior of some of the youth and teenager changed and they turned to use the poly drugs and they could use the poly drugs at any place or at the party where they hanged out and gathered for drug consumption which was conducive to drug trafficker who seek to earn more benefit and to expand their client group. This led to the continual decreasing price of drugs which were produced in the region be it Yaba, ICE, heroin or ketamine. The area where drugs severely spread was in the growing province or district with dense population in each region.

## **4. The Situation of Drug Epidemic in Thailand**

### **4.1 Dimension of Drug**

Most drug addicts who underwent treatment were Yaba addicts (79.43 percent), followed by ICE addicts (5.71 percent), opium addicts (5.20 percent) and heroin addicts (4.77 percent).

For Yaba, the new addicts who underwent treatment were 67.28 percent, of these number 26.34 percent were children and youth whose ages were under 25 years old. It also found that 62.07 percent of the youth in educational institutes who got involved with drug was in junior high school level.

For ICE, the proportion of the addicts who underwent treatment decreased, 69.65 percent received treatment for the first time, most of them aged between 30 - 34 years old (about 22.08 percent), most of them were employed (employee, laborer), followed by the unemployed. It also found that there were 16.55 percent of children and youth under 25 years old underwent treatment.

For heroin, the proportion of the addicts who underwent treatment increased, about 59.83 percent was those who underwent treatment before, however, it was found that there were the children and youth aged between 20 - 24 years old from Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Ratchaburi and Pathum Thani continually underwent treatment.



For opium, most of the addicts who underwent treatment were agriculturists (about 53.32 percent) and were the ones who underwent treatment before, the major areas that the addicts underwent treatment were Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Tak.

Club Drugs, which several kinds of drugs or narcotic substances were mixed in uncertain ratio with the aim to get stronger effect such as HAPPY WATER, coffee with Ya E in packets and Erimin5, ketamine and LSD. Most users were the youth who misunderstood that the Club Drugs could increase fun, undangerous and had no serious side effect.

For drug abuse, there were students who abused antihistamines and pain reliever drugs such as tramadol and procodyl, they were also found to abuse diazepam, alprazolam, Rohypnol (Ya Linfah-tongue will turn into blue) and Ya Siasow (sex pill) by mixing it with alcoholic drinks.

#### **4.2 Dimension of Drug Use Behavior**

During the pandemic of COVID-19, there were the increasing of mingling for drug use as well as drug buying and selling through on-line where properties of drugs, selling price, using method for Club Drugs were posted, the children and youth were found to intimate drug consumption appeared in video clip of YouTube. This included cannabis trafficking in the form of illegal extract which was also found that the children and youth got involved with and received severe impact from cannabis use, these overdoses led to mania symptom, family violence, house burning, destroying property, improper sexual behavior or sometimes consumers lost their lives.

#### **4.3 Dimension on Place of Drug Spread**

- The workplace which served as commercial living place such as dormitory, guest-house, condominium, house for rent/shared room for rent, it was found that the lessee/resident often mingled and had party to use drugs which were hidden in their rooms.

- The workplace which had business in freight transportation, drug trafficker was found to use the service in freight transportation, logistics, postal services as the channels for illegal drug trafficking.

- The entertainment workplace where illicit drug use was found increasing especially during the relaxing of control measures on COVID-19.

### **5. Trends of Drug Situation in 2023**

- The expanding of multinational drug crime syndicates which have movement in Thailand will increase their illegal smuggling and trade of drug.

- Due to the expansion of synthetic drugs in the countries outside Mekong Sub-region, Thailand may face the problem of being used as a gateway to smuggle drug through port, airport, international postal parcel service to the third country.

- Drug problem in the country will remain severe in particular the problem of illicit drug smuggling after opening the country back to normal condition, the pandemic of COVID-19 does not have any impact on drug production.

- To delete cannabis from narcotic drugs category V may have negative impact towards the people especially among the children and youth group as cannabis is widely sold, the same as the access to cannabis becomes easier which can lead to the use of other drugs that have more severe effect. This means to the increasing of the number of other kind of drug users who are with more severe drug effect, which will impact towards public health services since they have to treat the patients who use cannabis. It will also affect the neighboring countries since cannabis is still illegal in those countries.



- Yaba, ICE, heroin will remain the major drugs, as for Club Drugs, drug abuse and mixed drug use namely coffee mixed with drug in packets which are produced by users themselves, has tendency to increase through the channels of on-line media and freight receiving and sending services.

- The workplace which serves as commercial living place, operates freight transportation, service providing place and entertainment place will be the places for drug epidemic, trafficking and spreading.

- The volume of drugs that spreads throughout every sector of society, will lead to the high demand of drug domestically as well as the changing of consumption method to use poly mixed drugs.

- The psychiatric patient group resulted from continual drug use will impact the Thai society extensively and more severe both in terms of life, property and confidence in safety in the overall picture.



# **Chapter 3: Drug Supply Reduction**



## 1. The Control of Narcotic Crops Cultivation

### 1.1 The ONCB's Roles and Missions on Controlling Narcotic Crops Cultivation

1) Conducted the survey and proved of the narcotic crops cultivation area in Thailand each year, the major narcotic crops cultivation which had to be continually reported to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) was opium poppy, the empirical survey on illegal opium poppy cultivation by using reliable scientific process such as aerial photograph and ground survey to analyze coordinator, location and size of the plot using geoinformatics technology covering 76 potential opium poppy cultivation areas on the highland in 12 provinces in the northern and northeastern parts of the country. The survey was conducted 1-5 times a year to closely follow-up the efforts in illegal opium poppy cultivation.

2) Managed the eradication of opium poppy cultivation by analyzing situation and setting the target area and sending to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Army Region and the Border Patrol Police Division 3 to carry out the eradication. The ONCB also coordinated in providing finance and operational support, deterring, moving and pressuring the opium poppy growers to stop their efforts in illegal opium poppy cultivation in the village of which drug situation had occurred.

3) Developed the study research and technology on geoinformatics of narcotic crops and mobilized the policy on making use of narcotic crops by seeking and coordinating with public, private and civil sectors, academic agencies/organizations at both national and area levels.

### 1.2 Major Performances in 2023

1) Conducted 60 flights of aerial survey by helicopter and 23 ground surveys on 203 plots of opium poppy cultivation or about 111.09 Rai (17.77 hectares) were found in 8 provinces.

2) Managed and coordinated in eradicating 100 percent or 111.09 Rai (17.77 hectares) of the illegal opium poppy cultivation. The ONCB coordinated in moving and pressuring to deter and stop the efforts of the growers to grow opium poppy cultivation in 41 major villages. As a result, the ONCB could inhibit the effort in opium poppy cultivation in 73 plots of land or about 54 Rai (8.64 hectares), which according to the survey those plots of land were already prepared to cultivate opium poppy.

3) Developed the structure of study, research and initiative in making medical and economic use of Kratom Plant by coordinating/preparing memorandum on cooperation with various academic organizations and set 22 study-research projects as under the following issues;

- Basic research: physical characteristics, method in extracting narcotic substance, component of the extract, component of major substances, effect of those substances.
- Up-stream research: developing plant seed/spices and cultivation to meet the standard.
- Mid-stream research: extraction, managing factory as according to the standard, transaction, market system.
- Down-stream research, herbal product, cosmetics, food, testing tool and market evaluation.





4) Coordinated, supported and drove for the promulgation of the law controlling the abuse of Kratom Plant and promoted economic use of Kratom Plant. The Government Gazette announced the enactment of Kratom Plant Act B.E 2565 (2022) on August 26, B.E. 2565 (2022), it was now in the process of preparation of the Ministerial Regulations to allow for import and export of Kratom Leaves.

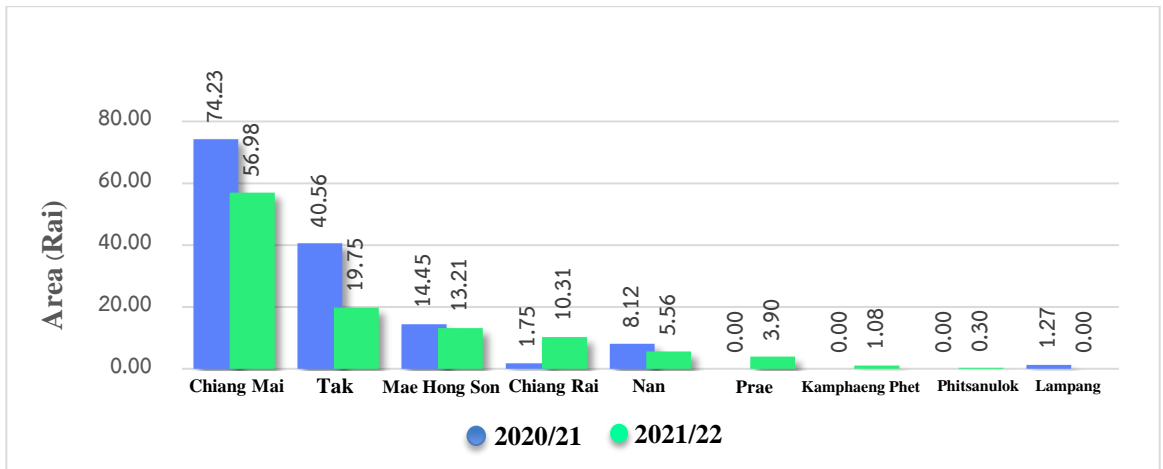
5) Prepared for coordinating and supporting for designing process and information system to be ready for the permission of import and export of Kratom Leaves by cooperation/ preparing memorandum of agreement on connecting electronic data with the Customs Department.

6) Followed-up those who were permitted to grow hemp (Kanchong) from the Office of Food and Drug Administration, totally 3,136 licenses were issued by conducting land inspection of 87 licenses in 7 provinces namely Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Mae Hong Son, Ayutthaya, Samut Songkhram, Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani before the declaration of the Ministry of Public Health's Notification on specifying the narcotic drugs category V, which was enacted on June 9, B.E. 2566 (2023) making Kanchong and cannabis legal in exception of the extracted substances from all parts of the crops which have THC over .02 by weight.

7) Supported the study research as according to Section 55 of the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021) in setting the experimental area for cultivating opium poppy and magic mushroom by preparing data/ projects to submit to the Narcotics Control Board for approval. The projects were "The Project on Thai Opium towards Medical Stability", "The Project on Magic Mushroom Cultivation to Expand for Medical Use under the Control System". There were altogether 4 experimental cultivation areas for opium poppy and magic mushroom, including the area of the educational institutes in various regions which were ready by coordinating with the Government Pharmaceutical Organization, Office of Food and Drug Administration and various educational institutes.

### **1.3 The Trend on the Situation of Illicit Opium Poppy Cultivation 2022/2023**

The present situation of opium poppy cultivation, though according to the survey during 2021/2022, the cultivation area reduced during the past several years since the growers faced with many problems during the opium poppy cultivation season, it could be forecast that the opium poppy cultivation area had tendency to continually reduce or gone especially in the area where eradication was strictly carried out and the area where the government officials carried out other measures in parallel. However, there was still much effort in illicit opium poppy cultivation due to the area which was conducive as its terrain could connect to the large opium poppy cultivation in the region, it located in the valley or deep forest along the border which was difficult for the officials to reach, the weather condition suited for the growth and the grower had new modern technology, leading to the increasing yield per plot. Moreover, there was still demand from opium users in the area, and the raw opium had high price which could make income to the growers who had limitation in doing other occupations, this was an important motivation in opium poppy cultivation.

**Comparison of Illicit Opium Cultivation Area in 2020/21 and 2021/22****Top 5 Opium Cultivation Districts/Provinces in Thailand (2021 - 2022)**

District/Province	Amount of area (Rai)
1. Mae Wang District, Chiang Mai Province	19.33
2. Chiang Dao District, Chiang Mai Province	13.40
3. Omkoi District, Chiang Mai Province	12.50
4. Pai District, Mae Hong Son Province	11.87
5. Wiang Pa Pao District, Chiang Rai Province	8.75



## Comparison of Opium Yield during 10 years (2012/13 - 2021/22)

### Comparison of Opium Yield during 10 years (2012/13 - 2021/22)

Year	Opium Cultivation Areas (ha)	Destruction Areas (ha)	Remain Cultivation Areas (ha)	Average Yield Areas (ha)	Yield of Cultivation Areas (MT)	Remain Yield (MT)
2012/13	265.44	264.17	1.28	22.19	<b>5.89</b>	<b>0.03</b>
2013/14	327.98	325.86	2.12	22.19	<b>7.28</b>	<b>0.05</b>
2014/15	317.07	313.17	3.90	22.19	<b>7.03</b>	<b>0.09</b>
2015/16	398.85	318.59	80.26	22.19	<b>8.85</b>	<b>1.78</b>
2016/17	301.60	301.60	0.00	22.19	<b>6.69</b>	<b>0.00</b>
2017/18	94.95	94.95	0.00	22.19	<b>2.11</b>	<b>0.00</b>
2018/19	42.86	42.86	0.00	22.19	<b>0.95</b>	<b>0.00</b>
2019/20	23.02	23.02	0.00	26.75	<b>0.62</b>	<b>0.00</b>
2020/21	22.46	22.46	0.00	26.75	<b>0.60</b>	<b>0.00</b>
2021/22	17.77	17.77	0.00	26.75	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.00</b>

**Remark** \* Average Yield 22.19 kg/ha

\*\* Average Yield 26.75 kg/ha



## 2. Alternative Development

In the fiscal year 2023, Thailand still implemented the alternative development for overcoming drug problem in a sustainable manner in order to be in line with the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on World Drug Problem or UNGASS 2016, which requested all the member states to adjust the strategy on drug control, from only using judicial process, laws to addressing the problem in balance approach in terms of social problem, public health, poverty, lacking opportunity; in other words, the problem should be addressed from basic social problems. The United Nations set the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as the global development framework after B.E. 2558 (2015) which was a continual part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) which ended in August B.E. 2558 (2015). Thailand announced in the Government Gazette on the promulgation of the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021) on November 29, 2021, the ONCB prepared the 3- Years Narcotics Control Plan (2020 - 2023), which integrated efforts with various concerned agencies, accordingly, alternative development measures were set to address drug problem by using village/community and people as the center to solve drug problem and to further build up strength and sustainability in society. The major outcomes were as followings;

### 2.1 The Project on Drug Prevention and Tackling Drug Problem in the Area of the Royal Project Foundation

In the fiscal year 2022, the Royal Project Foundation carried out its missions under the strategic plan which corresponded to the National Strategic Plan, the National Reform Plan and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the volunteers and operational staff of the Royal Project Foundation jointly prepared the strategic plan for effective operation and pushed for concrete actions. They achieved the set goal which were the development of the living condition of agriculturist and community and taking care of environment in their working area, which comprised 4 Royal Agriculture Stations and 39 Royal Project Development Centers in 6 northern provinces i.e. Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai, Lamphun, Mae Hong Son, Phayao and Tak, covering 463 groups of houses, with over 192,000 population. Under the 4 Years Strategic Plan of the Royal Project (2019 - 2022), 6 strategies were set as followings;

- (1) The strategy on research and knowledge development as well as proper initiatives for the highland.
- (2) The strategy on occupational development which should be based upon social landscape and should be environmental- friendly.
- (3) The strategy on developing the community in the Royal Project area to become self-dependence and serve as learning community.
- (4) The strategy on restoring and preserving environment in community, including taking care of watershed forest to be in perfect condition.
- (5) The strategy on marketing management for society.
- (6) The strategy on developing the Royal Project Foundation to become an organization with ethics, good working system and sustainability.



As for the Project on Drug Prevention and Tackling Drug Problem in the Area of the Royal Project Foundation, it was carried out in line with the principle of the Royal Project Foundation in supporting the tackling of drug problem in a sustainable manner as according to the commitment of H.M. King Maha Vajiralongkorn Phra Vajiraklaochaoyuhua ( King Rama X), to nurture, conserve and extend the work of the Royal Project to ensure its continued operation. At present, the project was carried out in 39 centers and stations of the Royal Project in 6 northern provinces. It was under the responsibility of the ONCB Office Region 5, and ONCB Office Region 6 to coordinate and cooperate with the Royal Project Foundation, the concerned agencies and agriculturists of the Royal Project in the areas for the implementation of the project. During the fiscal year, 2022, the major drug prevention activities were carried out as followings;

(1) Controlling the opium poppy cultivation in 1 area: which was the area in Mae Wang District, Chiang Mai Province, which was the operational area of the Thung Laung Royal Project Development Center, Mae Wang District, Chiang Mai Province where 39 plots of opium poppy cultivation or about 18 Rai (2.88 hectares) were found. The community joined hands in not allowing to have opium poppy cultivation, identifying drug consumers, making survey and air surveillance on monthly basis as well as developing youth leaders on drug prevention.

(2) Implementing the Vaccine Project for the Youth in the Royal Project (Drug Prevention in the Youth) by developing the potential of the leaders of the youth and mentoring agencies in 5 Royal Project Development Centers, there were altogether 50 participants. Supporting youth activities and creative activities project for 4 Royal Project Development Centers which comprised Ang Khang Agricultural Station, Khob Dong Youth Group of Wat Chan Royal Project Development Center: Ban Den Youth Group of Khun Pae Royal Development Center: Khun Pae young agriculturist group and Le Tor Royal Development Center: the youth of Keren (Sa-kow/Pow).

(3) Followed up and provided financial support for occupation of those who already completed their treatment in the following areas; Wat Chan Royal Project Development Center for 5 persons, Mae Hae Royal Project Development Center for 1 person, Mae Sapo

## **2.2 Roi Jai Rak Project**

The Roi Jai Rak Project is located in Tha Ton Subdistrict, Mae Ai District, Chiang Mai Province, the area that was directly impacted from drug problem and was once under the influence of a major drug trafficker who had the connection with drug trafficking groups and drug smugglers along the border. Though arrest and legal prosecution were carried out against the said influential trafficker, it was still necessary to develop honest alternative occupation for the community as well as to solve the problem of poverty and disparity to reduce the risk that other influential groups would come in to play their vicious role in the area which could lead to other illegal activities in various forms, which meant that there would be the increasing waste of budget in terms of suppression, remedy, prosecution and looking after prisoner and most importantly, it threatened the national security. Therefore, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage, carried out the Project on Alternative Development in that area to provide opportunity to those who were involved with all



drug concerned parties to have honest livelihood, even though their incomes might reduce in the early stage, it was honest occupation which could make steady income in the long run. This was considered as immunity building-up in preventing community from getting involved with drug and other illegal activities in a sustainable manner.

### **2.3 The Project on Drug Prevention in the Children and the Youth in Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage**

The Mae Fah Luang Foundation was well aware of the threat of drug in the children and the youth group, the Foundation, therefore, cooperated with the ONCB in building-up immunity on drug to the children and the youth in the risk areas in the bordering provinces plus with “the Project to Develop the Children and the Youth to Strengthen Drug Prevention Network”. In building-up drug immunity to the children and the youth, they should pass both short and long curriculum during 9 - 18 years old to implant to the children and the youth to be aware of the danger of drug, as well as to encourage them to serve as leaders in overcoming drug problem in their school.

The implementation of the project on building-up drug immunity to the children and the youth during 2014 - 2022, it was found that the participating children and youth had the knowledge, understanding and capacity to refuse the danger from drug. This was the result of practicing their skills during their training in camp. They also understood the impact of drug towards themselves, family and society and they could adapt to their daily life and change their attitude towards drug. The mentioned positive impacts were in line with the evaluation results after the training camp on the changing behaviors of the children and the youth which was carried out by schools and educational area offices as well as quantitative and qualitative assessment of all parties concerned and independent academic team.

### **2.4 The Project to Publicize Thailand’s Expertise in the Sustainable Alternative Development**

The Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage carried out its development work in line with the royal initiatives of the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej (King Rama IX) and Her Royal Highness Princess Srinagarindra, the late Princess Mother. To solve the problem of narcotic crops cultivation and the poverty problem in the northern area which were embedded there for over 2 decades, Doi Tung Development Project, in Chiang Rai Province was praised by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) as the world most successive prototype project for supply reduction of narcotic crops by solving poverty problem. The Royal Project Foundation also developed the principle on “Sustainable Alternative Livelihoods Development-SALD” as according to the royal initiative and publicized the knowledge learned to various countries as well as pushed for the implementation model on the alternative development project to international practices which became the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development (UNGP on AD) as according to the resolution of the United Nations Commission of Narcotic Drugs. Being practitioner, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation organized the study-visit on SALD and in-depth training to all interested parties at Doi Tung Development Project on a continual basis. Moreover, the representative of the Mae Fah Luang Foundation in



cooperation with the Royal Thai government participated in alternative development work in various international platforms both bilateral and multilateral forum. As a result, Thailand was accepted as an expertise in alternative development at the international level, as well as her outstanding role in driving for drug policy which was led by the development and had the linkage with the solution to drug problem including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Since 2017, the ONCB provide financial support from general subsidy to the Mae Fah Luang Foundation in extracting the knowledge on sustainable development for using as domestic base for further publicizing Thailand's expertise on SALD to other countries in particular the countries which faced the problem of narcotic crops cultivation. Moreover, the ONCB also supported the dissemination of sustainable alternative development through international platforms especially the sessions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) and other international meetings. Thailand had organized the exhibition on alternative development which illustrated the success of Thailand on alternative development during the Commission on Narcotic Drugs since 2010.

### **2.5 Thai - Myanmar Sustainable Livelihood Alternative Development (SALD)**

The Thai - Myanmar Sustainable Livelihood Alternative Development for Sustainable (SALD) was the area- based development project to encourage the community to have alternative in earning income with the honest occupation by focusing on the participation of community in couple with improving the potential of the people and resources in the area effectively. Activities could start at managing natural capital in the area to ensure that the community could make use of it, these might be carried out in parallel with development for sustainability *“could create stable income without getting involved with drugs and other illegal things”*. At present, the project was carried out in 2 areas namely Naungtayar, Pinlaung District, Southern Shan State and the Northern area of Thachileik, Thachileik District, Eastern Shan State. The ONCB supported the Mae Fah Luang Foundation to work in those areas.

**- In Naungtayar Area, Pinlaung District, Southern Shan State, various activities were carried out covering 5 issues;**

(1) Building-up Understanding to all Parties Concerned by meeting with government officials both local and central parts of Myanmar to present the progress of the development project, fields to ensure that the activities could be mobilized smoothly and effectively. As for people sector, consultations were carried out with community to inform them on following up the benefit that they would receive from the development project, to build-up understanding and to listen to their need. The volunteers visited the area to collect economic and social data from sample group of 545 households in the project area.

(2) Development of Irrigation System, constructed 1 weir for water consumption, 10 water pipe systems with 24,632 meters length and 6 water tanks with capacity of 120 cubic-meters and 2 reservoirs.

(3) Agricultural Development, provided 4 large corn mill motor-machines and 56 handwheel maize sheller machines for using with the produce after harvesting. It was found that the animal feed corn cultivated in 2021 yielded 716 kilograms per Rai reducing from the previous year about 18.7 percent. However, it made profit of 29,284,211 baht, 44 percent increase from the previous year. As for the year 2022, there were 1,361 agriculturists participated in the project which had 13,515 Rai of land (216.24 hectares)

(4) The Development of the Assum Tea Processing to Increase Its Value, supported the establishing of the tea processing plants for 30 household group in 11 villages, organized



training on tea plant pruning, and on new method to roast tea by experts and tea committee of each village helped transfer their knowledge.

(5) The Development of Livestock, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation in cooperation with the Livestock Breeding and Veterinary Department (LBVD) of Pinlaung District organized the training to prepare for development volunteers to provide animal husbandry service. Throughout the year, the volunteers provided services to 1,133 animals, moreover, mobile animal clinic was arranged for 2 times, which could provide services to 3,013 animals, delivered 95 buffaloes to beneficiaries from 93 households, delivered 25 cows to beneficiaries from 23 households as well as gave out 50,750 seedlings of Napier grass to the beneficiaries from the Cow and Buffalo Fund for further used as high nutrition food source for cows and buffaloes.

**- The Northern Area of Thachilik, Thachilik District, Eastern Shan State**  
**The following activities were carried out;**

(1) Development of Water Supply System, repaired 1 large weir, constructed 2 water pipe systems with the length of 1,400 meters.

(2) Livestock Development, provided veterinary check to 308 animals in the countryside by volunteers, established the Fund for Well-Feed Cow and delivered 40 well-feed cow to agriculturists from 20 households and gave out 600 sacks of food for well-feed cow, established the Pig Fund and delivered 55 pigs to agriculturists from 50 households, gave out 8 more medicine boxes to volunteers to enable them to provide husbandry services in the area thoroughly and delivered 1 motorcycle to the local livestock office to facilitate them for their travel to provide service in the area.

(3) Agricultural Development, provided 255 square meters agricultural produce drying area for using as central area of the community, supported the Fund for Fertilizer for 4 villages which received benefit from Moei Check Dam to buy 150 sets of fertilizer to the needy agriculturists, which covered 150 Rai of agricultural area (24 hectares).

**3. The Approaches to Intercept Illicit Drugs**

Integrated with the security concerned agencies to intercept illicit drugs from being smuggled from the production area or from the third country to the inner part of the country as well as inhibited the smugglers from using Thailand as gateway to send drugs to the third country be it by road, sea, or air, and introduced new technology for investigation.

The result of illicit drug interception along the border by setting the border area where illicit drugs were often smuggled in 15 provinces which connected to inner area by increasing technology at control point, checkpoint, interception point, the 5 major drugs which were intercepted as followings;

**The operational results of drug interception along the borders are as follows:**

Type of Drugs Seized Drugs	Seized Drugs (Overall)	Interdicted Drugs	Percentages
Yaba (pills)	504,606,146	57,387,060	11.37%
ICE (kg.)	12,561.41	2,175.59	17.32%
Heroin (kg.)	640.15	110.98	17.33%
Ketamine (kg.)	1,206.77	510.22	42.28%





#### 4. Approaches on the Suppression of Drug Trafficker

Cracked down drug traffickers and their syndicates both domestic and international, cross-border criminals, integrated asset forfeiture in drug related offences as being stated in the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021), the Anti-Money Laundering Act B.E. 2542 (1999) and tax measures as according to the Revenue Code, developed the potential of personnel responsible for asset forfeiture to have knowledge and understanding in enforcing laws, operational method and measures on asset forfeiture as according to the Narcotics Code, as well as brought into use digital technology, initiative to support the work, proceeded towards illicit drug smuggling village, gateway village, drug-storage village, village which was used to avoid checkpoint and drug epidemic village/community (village/community which was conducive to drug trafficking and drug spread).

##### 4.1 Suppression of Major Drug Trafficking Syndicate

It was aimed to demolish the structure of drug trafficking by the financial investigation, the expansion of the investigation, the use of conspiracy measure to deal with those who supported and helped offenders, the enforcement of other related laws and the introduction of tool and technology to support the work to achieve concrete result.

The achievement was the arrest of 423 drug offenders from 783 drug target syndicates and asset forfeiture of 1,540.61 million baht.

##### 4.2 Suppression and Enforcement of Laws

The measure helped the officials to make the arrest of 258,629 drug offences with 266,726 offenders which could be classified into 36,811 serious offences with 40,396 offenders, 127,272 consumption cases with 129,439 offenders and 60,804 cases of having drug in possession with 62,495 offenders.

#### Statistics on the Overall Drugs Arrest during 2017 - 2022 Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Number of Offences (Cases)	Number of Offenders
2017	261,112	287,238
2018	331,941	357,585
2019	363,769	368,771
2020	324,552	338,560
2021	337,186	350,758
2022	258,629	266,726

(As of 30 September 2022)

### Statistics on Drugs Seizures during 2017 - 2022 Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Yaba (Million Pills)	Heroin (Kilogram)	ICE (Kilogram)	Cannabis (Kilogram)	Ketamine (Kilogram)
2017	214.93	376.56	5,200.75	13,797.46	658.38
2018	339.69	940.63	19,347.92	16,401.94	551.44
2019	518.90	941.85	16,284.52	14,342.71	734.82
2021	554.74	4,520.56	26,622.67	41,573.65	1,350.45
2022	504.61	640.15	12,561.41	52,324.81	1,206.77

(As of September 30, 2021)

#### 4.3 Financial Investigation/Asset Forfeiture

The ONCB integrated asset forfeiture measure in drug offences with all the concerned agencies as according to the asset forfeiture measure in drug offences under the related laws which included the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021), the Anti-Money Laundering Act B.E. 2542 (1999) and tax measures under the Revenue Code. The investigation and expanding the result to cut off financial cycle to forfeit the asset



of drug syndicate as according to the policy of H.E. Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice, who set the goal of forfeited asset at 10,000 million baht. As a result of integrated efforts with all the concerned agencies, as according to the Act on Measures for the Suppression of Offenders in an Offence relating to Narcotics B.E. 2534 (1991) and the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021), the total forfeited asset worth 11,003 million baht, higher than the set target.





### Statistics on the Asset Seizure from Drug Offences during 2017 - 2022

Fiscal Year	Yaba (million pills)	Heroin (kilograms)	ICE (kilograms)	Cannabis (kilograms)	Ketamine (kilograms)
2017	214.93	376.56	5,200.75	13,797.46	658.38
2018	339.69	940.63	19,347.92	16,401.94	551.44
2019	518.90	941.85	16,284.52	14,342.71	734.82
2020	319.11	597.33	23,872.25	9,227.60	1,342.43
2021	554.74	4,520.56	26,622.67	41,573.65	1,350.45
2022	504.61	640.15	12,561.41	52,324.81	1,206.77

(As of 30 September 2022)

### Statistics on Asset Forfeiture during 2017 - 2022

Fiscal Year	Number of Offenders (Person)	Value of Asset (Million Baht)
2017	1,919	1,667.72
2018	2,237	1,228.66
2019	1,819	949.59
2020	1,853	790.57
2021	3,161	7,346.32
2022	4,682	11,003.02

(As of 30 September 2022)

#### 4.4 Drug Detection and Analysis

The Narcotics Analysis and Technical Service Institute: NATSI, ONCB conducts drug detection and analysis of the seized drugs for using as evidence in the prosecution of drug cases according to the justice procedures. There are two types of drug detection and analysis have been operating which are quantitative analysis and qualitative analysis.as follows:



1) The result of drug detection and analysis sent to NATSI, ONCB in fiscal year 2022.

Analysis Types	Number of Cases	Number of Samples	Net Weight (kilogram)
Qualitative	435	620	17,963.47
Quantitative	861	2,309	42,181.55
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,296</b>	<b>2,929</b>	<b>60,145.02</b>

2) The data on drug detection and analysis of 7 major drugs sent to NATSI, ONCB, compared with data on narcotic seizures nationwide in Fiscal Year 2022 is as follow:

No.	Types of Drugs	Quantity (Detection and Analysis)	Quantity (Nationwide Seizure)
1	Yaba	339.13 million pills	504.6 million pills
2	ICE	7,730.94 kilograms	12,561.41 kilograms
3	Heroin	508.30 kilograms	640.15 kilograms
4	Ya-E	498,686 pills	632,164 pills
5	Cocaine	25.26 kilograms	56.33 kilograms
6	Ketamine	1,195.19 kilograms	1,206.77 kilograms
7	Cannabis	17,917.50 kilograms	60,976.67 kilograms

#### 4.5 Destruction of the Seized Drugs

The incineration of the seized drug for the fiscal year 2022 was in line with the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021) by improving the method and reducing the storage period of the seized drug before being destroyed, to make it transparent and verifiable as well as to be environmental-friendly. Previously, when narcotics enforcement official who made the arrest or retained the arrested offender and sent the seized drug to the investigator officer, so the drug detection and analysis received drug and made report, then brought the remaining drug from the test to be kept in the storage of the seized drug at the Ministry of Public Health before incineration. The seized drug would be stored until the civil court had verdict or had order for incineration. Thus, the storage period took several years and in the case which drug was seized and warrant was made to offender but the offender escaped, the official had to wait until the statute of limitation was expired which sometimes took 10 years, 20 years or even 30 years, the longest depending on the seriousness of each case as stated by law. At present, as according to the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021) and the ONCB's Regulations on Drug Seizure, Detection, Analysis, Storage, Destruction, Utilization and Report on the Seized Drug B.E. 2565 (2023), after sending drug to the storage, the Committee on Drug Inspection inspected the drug, made the list and the report to be used as evidence for the destruction. The seized drugs should be destroyed immediately after the Committee on Drug Inspection gave approval to destroy the drug without having to wait for the order of the court. So, the storage period of the seized drug would be only 2 weeks, in every process, there would be groups of people who did the cross-check each other to prevent the seized drug from shifting out of the system and to be completely destroyed.



In the fiscal year 2022, there were 40,706.72 kilograms of the seized drug which were stored at the Drug Storage of the office of Food and Drug Administration, these drugs were from 185 offences valued about 34,688 million baht. These comprised 23,365 kilograms of methamphetamine (Yaba), 14,482 kilograms of methamphetamine hydro-chloride (ICE), 738 kilograms of heroin, 4.66 kilograms of MDMA/MDA/MDE (Ya-E, Ya Love), 29 kilograms of opium, there were also other psychotropic substances such as ketamine, nimetazepam weighed totally over 2,086 kilograms. All the seized drugs would be incinerated by large incinerator for dangerous waste, which had high temperature, using natural gas with pollution and waste control system from incineration and the inspection on pollution control would never impact the environment to ensure that over 99.99 percent of hazardous organic compounds were destroyed.



On 5 - 6 July 2022, the 53<sup>rd</sup> burning of narcotics for the fiscal year 2022 at the Industrial Waste Management Center, Akkhie Prakarn Public Company Limited, Bangpoo Industrial Estate, Samut Prakan Province.

### Statistics on Destruction of Seized Narcotic Drugs during 2017 - 2022 Fiscal Years

Fiscal Year	Yaba (kg)	ICE (kg)	Heroin (kg)	Ecstasy (kg)	Psychotropic Substances (kg)	Value (Million Baht)
2017	7,886	1,185	169	2	11	20,719
2018	5,514	486	108	10	73	13,698
2019	12,369	3,443	143	14	191	20,047
2020	18,303	5,878.50	541.4	0.226	557	55,941
2021	15,890	10,817	697	16	383	29,916
2022	21,270	9,396	561	89	600	34,688

Source of Data: Ministry of Public Health (as of 30 September 2022)



# **Chapter 4: Drug Demand Reduction**



## **Drug Prevention Measures**

### **1. The Approaches to Strengthen the Village/Community along the Border and Alternative Development**

Through analyzing the root of the problem and the motivation of the people who lived in the village/community along the border and in the inner part of the country, most of them were in difficult situation and had less opportunity, these were the main reasons driving them to get involved with drug. In addition, the implementation of alternative development was carried out in parallel with the analysis of the problem to overcome the problem holistically and to improve the quality of life both in terms of infrastructure development, addressing the problem of inequality in all dimensions be it economic and social dimension, education, or public-health and promote the opportunities in economy, knowledge, skills, capital and market to support the people to have occupational channel and to earn income honestly. The implementation included the followings;

1) Proceeded as according to the measures on drug prevention and monitoring drug problem in village/community such as monitoring drug problem in village/community, patrolling, setting -up checkpoint/interception point, building -up drug immunity, organizing creative activities for the children and the youth, providing treatment and following-up to help the drug addicts who completely underwent treatment.

2) Carried out development activities in the target areas such as improving the basic infrastructure, upgrading road and water supply system for consumption, promoting agriculture and local handicraft, promoting tourism in village/community, and supporting product processing. As a result, the villages/communities along the border were strengthened, strong villages/communities which could overcome drug were set up as they followed the 9 working steps set by the Ministry of Interior and the people in the villages/communities provided good cooperation in participating in drug control activities. In carrying out those activities, the Ministry of Interior integrated effort with the Internal Security Operations Command (ISOC) in 1,240 villages/communities along the border, thus the area and the life of the people were developed for better alternative and not involved with drug trafficking nor drug use.

### **2. The Proper and Concrete Drug Prevention Approaches in Each Target Group**

Appropriately built up the immunity in the children and the youth group in each age range through managing the teaching process by focusing on developing the teaching and learning curriculum and promoting extracurricular activities which suited each range of age to prevent them from getting involved with drug, the achievements were as followings;

## 2.1 The Children and Youth Group,



the following activities were carried out for this range of age;

**2.1.1 Early Childhood Level**, encouraged the development of Executive Function (EF) major activities were as followings;

1) Media Development, published a set of story-book entitled Read for Warm Love, this was the 2nd publishing for 56,790 sets to be used as the tool to support the building-up of Executive Function (EF), and to develop drug immunity in the early childhood age. The books were distributed to 183 Primary Educational Service Area Office, under the Provincial Education Office in 77 provinces and the Local Administration Office in 76 provinces, Education Department of BMA, Social Development Department, BMA and Department of Health, BMA.



2) Personnel Development, cooperated with the Department of Local Administration in organizing the training workshop to increase the potential of prototype teacher in strengthening the appropriate drug immunity for the early childhood who were under the responsibility of the Department of Local Administration. The workshop was hold for 10 classes during March 22 - May 14, 2022 at the Galaxy Hotel, Nonthaburi Province. The target teachers were the early childhood teachers from the Child Development Centers and schools under the Local Administration Organizations throughout the country, the total number of participants were 1,180.

**2.1.2 Primary school levels, High School Level or equivalent**, promoted teaching and learning as according to the curriculum entitled “Be Smart Say No to Drugs” in health education subject by arranging for the teaching and learning in all levels of educational institutes both primary and high school levels or equivalent throughout the country, totaling 1,180 students learnt the subject.



**2.1.3 University Level**, cooperated with Faculty of Laws in 5 universities, namely Chulalongkorn University, Thammasat University, Ramkhamhaeng University, Sukhothai Thammathirat Open University and Rajabhat Maha Sarakham University to develop the curriculum on the course set of “Narcotics Laws” to support the Narcotics Code B.E.2564 (2021). In this regards, the Memorandum of Cooperation between the ONCB and the 5 universities were signed on February 28, 2022 at the ONCB. The ONCB jointly developed the curriculum and the teaching on this course was set to start in the 1st semester of the academic year of 2023.







**2.1.4 Forces Group (military/police officer)**, developed the curriculum for teaching and learning, training to the forces group as followings;

1) Enlisted Army Soldier, developed and published 1,400 manuals on drug learning to the regular army soldier and organized trainings for armed forces instructors throughout the country for 3 days and 2 nights (19 hours) for 21 batches with the total of 1,052 participants from army, navy and air force, so that they could further train the enlisted army soldiers from all forces starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> turn/2022 onward.

2) Police Sergeant Student, developed teaching curriculum for the Police Sergeant Academy and produced video for teaching on drug prevention for police sergeant student, the curriculum was divided into 2 categories comprising 6 subjects with the total teaching time of 12 hours. The teaching started from semester 2/2022 onward. There were altogether 360 police sergeant students from 21 training centers all over the country participated in this curriculum.



**2.1.5 The Youth Network**, promoted activities of the youth network, which included creative activities to build-up the perception and awareness on drug prevention as followings;





1) Youth Network on Drugs Prevention Program in Mekong Sub-region, Organized the Project of the International Youth Network on Drug Prevention Program, which was the study visit to exchange knowledge in Bangkok, Udon Thani, Nong Khai, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai, Lao PDR, and Myanmar to develop the potential of youth leaders and network on drug prevention in the youth group. The program was organized during August 15 - 25, 2022 and was participated by the youth representatives from 5 countries i.e. Kingdom of Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Union of Myanmar, Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Kingdom of Thailand, totaling 35 participants.

2) Youth Activities, Organized the Project on Smart Kids, Sing, Play, Dance, Fulfill Dreams to Overcome Drug (ONCB Challenge) to help the youth of primary school level aged between 7 - 12 years old to group up into team in which the family members could take part by sending a short clip showing creative gestures for the anti-drug song "Follow Your Dreams" for competition, through Tik-Tok channel. This activity would help the participation and the access to the children and the youth, the total winning award was over 100,000 baht.

**ขอเชิญร่วมประกวดทำคลิปประกอบเพลง**  
**BE SMART KIDS**  
 ฝึกคิด ฝึกทำ ฝึกเล่น ฝึกเต้น ฝึกสร้างสรรค์

**เปิดรับสมัครแล้วตั้งแต่วันนี้ - 24 กันยายน 2565**

**ประเภทการแข่งขัน**เยาวชนระดับประถมศึกษา อายุระหว่าง 7-12 ปี

**เงื่อนไขการเข้าประกวด**

- อายุระหว่าง 7-12 ปี รุ่นไม่เกินเมื่ออายุ 2 คน
- ภายในที่ความสามารถขึ้นในรอบสร้างรายได้
- อัพโหลดคลิปพร้อมคีย์ #besmartkids ลงใน **TikTok** เพื่อเข้าร่วมการประกวด

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## 2.2 Labour group



The following activities were organized for the labor group both in and out of the system;

**2.2.1 The Labor outside the System**, strengthened the cooperation and communication to build up the perception on drug prevention in the labor group who were in the system and who were out of the system on the following issues;

1) The issue of being hired to open bank account for other person to use, organized consultative meeting to build up the perception on how to prevent themselves from becoming the victim of drug trafficking by being hired to open bank account for other person to use, on December 14, 2021. The meeting was attended by 9 E-money service companies and to seek cooperation from those companies and banks through the Thai Banker's Association to communicate and to build up perception for the prevention of being hired to open bank account for other person to use through different communication channels such as bank application/E-money, website, Facebook, Twitter, Line and locations of bank. There were altogether 24 business companies and banks helped publicizing communication media to build up the perception to this group of labor.

2) Becoming the victim in drug trafficking in the group of car repairing occupation, published 10,000 posters to build up the perception on prevention of being hired for car modification for drug smuggling and the posters were distributed to car repairing garages in 76 provinces all over the country through the ONCB Office Bangkok Area, Labor Protection and Welfare Offices in 76 provinces and 10 District Offices in Bangkok Metropolitan.

**2.2.2 The Labor in the Workplace**, cooperated with Department of Labor Protection and Welfare in organizing the Project on the Workplace Joins Hands in Providing Opportunity to Drug Abusers/ Drug Addicts to Return Good Person to Society in B.E. 2565 (2022). The declaration of honor has been given to the workplace that participate in the project since B.E. 2560 (2017). The declaration of honor was on promoting and helping those who got involved with drug in the workplace. In 2022, there were altogether 22 workplaces applied to participate in the project but only 14 workplaces passed the criteria for further consideration.

## 3. The Approaches to Promote the Participation of Family and Community

**3.1. Promoting the Participation of Family**, the following activities were organized;

**3.1.1 Strengthened Cooperation and Personnel Development**, reinforced the cooperation with the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development to promote 7,149 Community Development Centers throughout the country to serve as a mechanism in developing the skills in raising children for family, mother and father, and parents to prevent the children to get involved with drug by using the knowledge on brain skills development or Executive Function (EF).



In this regard, the ONCB cooperated with the Department of Women's Affairs and Family Development organized the workshop to develop the potential of the instructors' team on family at provincial level to mobilize family work (Reinforcing the knowledge on Executive Function (EF)) by using teleconference system through zoom meeting. Twelve workshops were organized for 1,200 participants. In addition, the ONCB coordinated with the Department of Local Administration to allow 19,934 Child Development Centers throughout the country to join as a mechanism in developing the skills in raising children for family, mother and father, and guardians.

**3.1.2 Developed the Pilot Area**, mobilized the promotion of Executive Function (EF) to the early childhood in family at area level by cooperating with the Extraordinary Committee on Studying Drug Problem, House of Representatives and the concerned agencies to proceed in the pilot area in 4 provinces i.e., Pattani, Kanchanaburi, Si Sa Ket and Bangkok Metropolitan. These areas would be used as prototype in integrated brain skills development or Executive Function (EF) to the child in early childhood in family starting from survey, data study, providing knowledge on EF to various target groups, preparing the plan for the area, explaining and building understanding, creating the tool to support the work, drawing the lesson learned, supervision, following-up and conducting research and evaluation.





## 4. The Implementation of the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control



**4.1 Promoting the Seedling Villages/Communities of the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control**, cooperated with the Department of Community Development, the Internal Security Operations Command and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration promoted 1,029 seedling villages/communities of the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control, which at present there were altogether 26,507 seedling villages/communities all over the country.

**4.2 Organizing the Annual Fund Distribution Ceremony on the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control**, HRH Princess Bajarakitiyabha Narendiradebyavati Kromluangrajasarinisribajra Mahavajrarajadhita presided over the Annual Fund Distribution Ceremony on the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control for the Year 2022 which was organized under the theme of the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of the Mother of the Nation, "Weaving Love, Uniting Hearts, Peace for all Thais". The ceremony was attended by 315 representatives from various government agencies and representatives from the villages/communities under the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control who were granted the permission to have an audience with Her Royal Highness. Her Royal Highness graciously handed over the seed fund of the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control for the fiscal year 2021 and 2022 to the Permanent Secretary of Interior, the Permanent Secretary of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration who served as the representative of the villages/communities which were the seedlings villages of the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control.

**4.3 The Restoration and Strengthening Villages/Communities under the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control**, cooperated with the Department of Community Development, the Department of Local Administration, the Internal Security Operations Command and Bangkok Metropolitan Administration to conduct the check on the strength of 23,065 villages/communities under the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control for the year 2022. It was found that among those villages/communities 5,167 were classified as A level, or about 22.4 percent, 16,155 villages/communities were classified as B level or about 70.04 percent and 1,743 villages/communities were classified as C level or about 7.56 percent. Moreover, the ONCB published 1,500 manuals on the Mother of the Nation's Fund for Drug Control.



**4.4 The Activities to Honor the Auspicious Year of the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother**, since The Queen Mother would turn 90 years on August 12, 2022 to show loyalty and to remember the divine grace of The Queen Mother who handed over her own personal money to be “the seed fund for the Mother of the Nation’s Fund for Drug Control”, the ONCB cooperated with all the agencies and parties concerned in arranging for the blood donation entitled “90 Years, 90 Millions CC” to give exaltation to The Queen Mother and to reinforce cooperation and to strengthen the network of the Mother of the Nation’s Fund for Drug Control, the total number of blood donors were 447,212 persons with 185,096,115 million CC of blood.



## Drug Treatment Measures

### The Approaches to Look After the Drug Addicts to Get Access to Treatment and Social Rehabilitation

Reduced the impact from drug by focusing on screening process which should suit to the level of drug addiction of each drug patient as well as providing treatment and rehabilitation to drug users and drug addicts as according to the standard of the Ministry of Public Health, and the related legal framework as well as social rehabilitation, by integrated cooperation with all concerned parties in helping and supporting those who underwent treatment to have better quality of life in terms of living quarters, education, occupation and following-up for helping them to return to their normal life. The achievements were as followings;

#### 1. Development of Treatment System

1.1 Administration to Drive the Drug Treatment as according to the Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021)

1.1.1 The ONCB in cooperation with the concerned agencies prepared the secondary laws for the Narcotics Code to be used as a mechanism to overcome drug problem holistically, by using them for setting up the policy on treatment and on following- up to help those who underwent treatment, which the Narcotics Code could effectively solve the gaps between various laws by providing opportunities for drug user to undergo treatment on voluntary basis instead of compulsory or correctional basis, as well as set for social rehabilitation in parallel with treatment process of the Ministry of Public Health. Preparation of the content, data and building-up the perception of the concept under the Narcotics Code, in forms of infographic and video on the knowledge of the Narcotics Code to build up the perception and understanding of the Narcotics Code to the ONCB officials in Bangkok Area Office and in the regional Offices, this included question and answer sessions on the implementation of the new Narcotics Code.



## 2. Development of Quality of Life of Those who Underwent Treatment

Since those who underwent drug treatment and rehabilitation often faced the problem of being discriminated and not being accepted as most people in society still had negative attitude towards those persons, as a result those who underwent drug treatment and rehabilitation lacked of opportunity in living and in carrying out normal work, could not earn income for themselves and their family, as well as unable to adjust themselves to become a part of society. This became the pressure that pushed some of those who underwent drug treatment and rehabilitation to relapse to drug or recidivism.

The ONCB was well aware of the necessity to help those who underwent drug treatment and rehabilitation, the Project on **“Help Those who Underwent Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation”** to help those who underwent drug treatment and rehabilitation who intended to request fund for occupation, at the rate of not over 20,000 baht per person. This welfare was carried out for 7 years (the fiscal year 2016-2022), the number of persons who received the fund was 2,584. In the year 2022, the fund was given to 5 persons, the budget for this year was 1,076,211.50 baht, most of them were agriculturist, craftsman, trader and general employee, respectively

After receiving fund for occupation, the ONCB and civil society organizations followed-up their occupation periodically, not less than 6 months, it was found that over 90 percent of them had better quality of life, could change themselves not being burden to society, on the contrary, they became potency of family, community and society. It could be said that this was the right way to effectively overcome drug problem and to reduce the level of seriousness of drug spread in village/community.



### 3. Managing the Mobilization of Drug Addicts to Undergo Drug Treatment and Social Rehabilitation

#### 3.1 Managing/Mobilizing the Implementation, as according to the Order of the



Office of the Prime Minister, No. 20/2013 on the Appointment of the Coordinating Committee on Drug Control during COVID-19 Situation, which was chaired by H.E. General Prawit Wongsuwan, Deputy Prime Minister, the meeting to mobilize the implementation continually by cooperating with all concerned agencies both public and private sectors and

various charity organizations in setting measures to help drug addicts for the entire system until they could return to society by integrating all complaints from the hot lines of the concerned agencies. In the year 2022, there were 571 complaints from “Stop Drug Hot Line”, of this number, 157 cases were sent for treatment.

#### 3.2 International Cooperation on Drug Treatment

3.2.1 Attended UNODC high level meeting on “Way Forward to UNODC”, on April 26, 2022 at the United Nations Thailand, Bangkok (UN ESCAP Building, Bangkok) which was organized by UNODC with the objectives for all stakeholders to consult on the new changing roles and responsibilities, working management and regulations as well as efforts to coordinate for promoting and protecting the rights of drug addicts and those who were impacted from drug use. It was recommended that there should have knowledge development for operating personnel who were not public health personnel, attitude adjustment of personnel in public health and support for research to develop measures and policy with empirical evidence. UNODC agreed to the recommendations and planned to have continual meeting for further discussions on the details.





3.2.2 In July 2022, consultation on academic cooperation between the ONCB and the North Texas University in the following topics;

- 1) Cooperation on the study research on drugs and narcotic substances, addiction, and criminal justice.
- 2) Short training course for Thai operating officials.
- 3) Possibility to provide fund for further study for drug treatment and rehabilitation officials from University of North Texas or other partner organizations.
- 4) Providing academic consultation, organizing workshop/special curriculum for other related organizations.





#### 4. The Achievements in Implementing the Integrated Plan on Drug Treatment

There were 130,560 drug users entered the treatment process or about 85.06 percent from the target of 154,484.

Results of Treatment	Target (person)	Enrollment (case)	Percentage of Success
<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>86,994</b>	<b>67,025</b>	<b>77.04%</b>
Hospital	(85,317)	(61,313)	(71.86%)
Behavioral Reform Center	(1,677)	(1,241)	(74.00%)
CBTx	(0)	(4,471)	(0%)
<b>Compulsory</b>	<b>26,540</b>	<b>20,937</b>	<b>78.88%</b>
In Detention or Conditioned	(21,540)	(2,335)	(10.84%)
Unconditioned	(5,000)	(18,602)	(372.04%)
<b>Correctional System</b>	<b>30,450</b>	<b>26,561</b>	<b>87.22%</b>
Corrections Dept.	(27,450)	(23,878)	(86.98%)
Office of Juvenile Observation and Protection	(3,000)	(2,683)	(89.43%)
<b>On Probation (Article#56)</b>	<b>9,500</b>	<b>16,037</b>	<b>168.81%</b>

(Statistics between October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022)

#### 5. The Outcomes of the Follow-up, Aftercare and Assistance Provided to Persons Who Underwent Treatment

Among the number of drug users who underwent treatment and rehabilitation, 103,533 drug users were followed up from the total target of 175,883 persons or about 58.88 percent. They could be classified into 50,772 drug users who underwent drug treatment on voluntary system, 26,960 cases were under compulsory system and 25,821 cases were under correctional system. Besides, 2,142 of those who underwent drug treatment and rehabilitation received help from the total number of 5,827 persons who requested for help.



<b>Persons Who Underwent Treatment Model</b>	<b>Target (person)</b>	<b>Outcomes (case)</b>	<b>Percentage of Success</b>
<b>Voluntary</b>	<b>73,307</b>	<b>50,772</b>	<b>58.88</b>
Hospital	(55,418)	(40,509)	(57.37)
Behavioral Reform Center	(17,889)	(10,263)	(57.37)
<b>Compulsory</b>	<b>58,726</b>	<b>26,960</b>	<b>45.91</b>
In Detention or Conditioned	(13,711)	(5,819)	(42.44)
Unconditioned	(45,015)	(21,141)	(46.96)
<b>Correctional System</b>	<b>43,850</b>	<b>25,821</b>	<b>58.88</b>
Corrections Dept.	(40,186)	(23,350)	(58.10)
Office of Juvenile Observation and Protection	(3,664)	(2,471)	(67.44)
<b>Providing assistance to persons who underwent treatment (person)</b>	<b>Request for Assistance</b>	<b>Received Assistance</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Outcome of assistance (Total)	<b>5,827</b>	<b>2,142</b>	<b>36.75</b>

(Statistics between October 1, 2021 - September 30, 2022)



### Statistics on Treatment and Rehabilitation of Drug Addicts during Fiscal Year 2017 - 2022

Fiscal Year	Treatment of Drugs Users and Drugs Addicts (Case)			
	Voluntary System	Compulsory System	Correctional System	Total
2017	114,659	56,783	26,074	197,516
2018	107,079	76,455	24,516	208,050
2019	102,681	99,901	27,098	229,680
2020	76,118	89,261	25,016	190,395
2021	59,566	73,490	22,032	168,569
2022	67,025	20,937	26,561	130,560

(As of September 30, 2022)

### Statistics on Treatment and Rehabilitation in Voluntary System Classified by Old and New Patients during 2017 - 2022 Fiscal Year

Fiscal Year	Old Patients		New Patients	
	Number of Patients (Person)	%	Number of Patients (Person)	%
2017	13,090	11.26	103,184	88.74
2018	24,064	22.04	85,119	77.96
2019	34,490	33.71	67,824	66.29
2020	20,772	27.80	53,946	72.20
2021	45,081	30.00	106,650	70.00
2022	38,102	34.4	74,224	66.9

(As of September 30, 2022)



**Statistics of the Patients who Underwent Treatment under Voluntary System  
Classified by Types of Drugs during Fiscal Year 2017 - 2022 (person)**

<b>Types of Drug</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>
Yaba	83,753	82,018	70,116	51,850	115,496	50,089
Cannabis	10,896	7,936	11,577	5,530	6,427	3,407
Kratom	6,148	3,925	4,029	2,271	1,808	650
Ice	4,681	4,990	4,788	5,749	12,083	1,809
Heroin	3,198	3,242	3,318	3,474	4,878	5,652
Opium	2,609	3,963	3,849	3,673	3,494	3,483
Ecstasy	213	178	125	104	137	85
Ketamine	203	303	885	501	433	385
Cocaine	15	18	8	12	11	4

(As of September 30, 2021)



# **Chapter 5: Amendment and Development of Laws Related to Drugs**



## **Amendment and Development of Laws Related to Drugs**

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### **5.1 Amendment and Development of Laws Related to Drugs**

As the government amended and developed the laws related to drugs to be more updated and corresponded to the National Strategy and the National Reform Plan as well as to be in line with the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016) which was approved by the joint meeting of the Parliament and passed through legislative process until promulgating as the law which comprised 1. The Act Promulgating a Narcotics Code B.E. 2564 (2021) of which the Narcotics Code is the attachment, 2. The Narcotics Offences Procedures Act (No.2) B.E. 2564 (2021). The concerned agencies had to prepare the secondary laws within 2 years.

In the fiscal year 2022, the ONCB prepared 14 secondary laws which were enacted as according to those 2 Acts as followings;

#### **5.1.1 Two Ministerial Regulations** namely:

- 1) The Ministerial Regulation on Treatment of Drug Addicts B.E. 2565 (2022)
- 2) The Ministerial Regulation on Report the Charge to the Offenders on Supporting, Helping or Conspiring to Commit Serious Offences Related to Drug B.E. 2565 (2022).

**5.1.2 Eight Regulations and Notifications of the Narcotics Control Board (NCB)** were as the followings;

1) The Regulation of the Narcotics Control Board on the Official Performance and Coordination Performance to Correspond to the National Plan and Policy on Drug Control and Tackling Drug Problem B.E. 2565 (2022).

2) The Regulation of the Narcotics Control Board on the Criteria, Method and Condition for Fine Penalty B.E. 2565 (2022).

3) The Regulation of the Narcotics Control Board on the Appointment, Performance and Monitoring the Function of the Narcotics Control Officials B.E. 2565 (2022).

4) The Regulation of the Narcotics Control Board on the Seized Drug Inspection, Detection and Analysis, Storage, Destruction, Making Use of and Preparing Seized Drug Report B.E. 2565 (2022).

5) The Regulation of the Narcotics Control Board on the Data Acquisition, Making Use of and Collection of Data B.E. 2565 (2022).

(6) The Notification of the Narcotics Control Board on Drug Control and Tackling Drug Offences Measures in the Workplace.

7) The Notification of the Narcotics Control Board on Criteria, Method and Condition to Inspect or Test Whether or Not a Person of a Group of Persons Have Drug Substances in their Bodies.

8) The Regulation of the Narcotics Control Board on the Drug Control Fund B.E. 2565 (2022).



### **5.1.3 Four Regulations of the Committee on Asset Examination comprised the followings;**

1) The Regulation of the Committee on Asset Examination on the Order for Asset Examination, for Termination of Asset Examination and for the Return of the Temporary Seized or Forfeited Asset B.E. 2565 (2022).

2) The Regulation of the Committee on Asset Examination on the Auction of the Seized Asset or Making Official Use of the Seized Asset B.E. 2565 (2022).

3) The Regulation of the Committee on Asset Examination on the Assessment of Damages and Depreciation of the Seized Asset B.E. 2565 (2022).

4) The Regulation of the Committee on Asset Examination on the Storage of the Seized or Freeze Asset B.E. 2565 (2022).

### **5.2 The Adjustment of Legal Policy on Controlling Drug Substances**

Due to the reform of the policy on narcotic crops to correspond to the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem (UNGASS 2016)) as well as the adjustment of the laws that were obstacles or burden to the livelihood of the people, the Ministry of Justice by the ONCB and the concerned agencies changed the status of narcotic crops control to enable to bring into use narcotic crops for medical purpose and for economic benefit with proper monitoring measures.

In the fiscal year 2022, after Kratom Plant was deleted from the narcotic list, the ONCB in cooperation with the concerned agencies pushed for the law to set the monitoring measures on import or export of Kratom Leaves and on promoting Kratom Plants to be used for economic benefit as well as protecting the health of the vulnerable persons, to prevent the abuse of Kratom Plant until it was approved by the Parliament and passed through the legislative process and became law entitled the Act on Kratom Plant B.E. 2565 (2022) which entered into force on August 27, 2022.

This Act covered the following substantives;

1) The people could grow, have in possession or consume Kratom Plant without asking for permission.

2) In case of import or export of Kratom Leave, an importer or an exporter should be permitted by the Secretary-General of Narcotics Control Board.

3) In case of using Kratom Leave or its extract as the compound of product such as food product, herb, medicine or cosmetic, it did not need permission as according to this law but it needed to have permission from the laws that controlled such products.

4) Selling Kratom Leave could be done directly and through electronics channel without having to ask for permission, but it was prohibited to sell to the youth under 18 years old, pregnant women, breastfeeding women and it also prohibited to be sold in some places such as educational institute, dormitory, amusement park or park as well as to sell through vending machine.

5) It was prohibited to use Kratom Leave to cook or mix with narcotic drugs or hazardous substances (4x100)

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# **Chapter 6: Development of Operational Personnel on Drug Prevention and Tackling Drug Problem**



## **Development of Operational Personnel on Drug Prevention and Tackling Drug Problem**

During the fiscal year 2022, the ONCB developed operational personnel on drug prevention and tackling drug problem at all levels to enhance and develop knowledge, capacity, skills and potential which were necessary to effectively perform their work in different positions and in a professional way as the ONCB is the principle national agency on drug control which organized various training curriculum as well as sending personnel to develop and enhance the knowledge and skills for working with other agencies for more than 70 curriculum, there were altogether 577 personnel took part in the training with other agencies.

### **The Overseas Study Trip**

During August 29 - September 2, 2022, Miss Nattaphat Yongjaiyut, Vice Minister of Justice with Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, the Secretary-General of the NCB and the executives of the ONCB made a study visit to the Republic of Korea (South Korea) for the consultative meeting on drug control and for observing drug control operations of the Republic of Korea (South Korea). During the visit, the Thai delegation made a courtesy call on Mr. Shin Bong Soon, Director of the Office of Anti - Corruption and Offences with Using Violence, visited the Supreme Prosecutors' Office (SPO) for the briefing on drug situation and exchanging the statistical data on the number of drug offenders which related to Thai people and the measures to address the problem. The delegation also discussed with the representatives of the National Intelligence Service (NIS), visited the NIS Museum and the National Cyber Security Center (NCSC), which was the data collection center of cyber-crimes both in real-time and in the form of data collection with warning system which could connect the NCSC with other major agencies throughout the country.

In this regard, the NIS expressed its appreciation for the ONCB's cooperation in expanding investigation which led to the arrest of major South Korean offenders in several cases, the cooperation in enhancing the potential of the ONCB officials to learn Korean language and tradition and in sending the NIS officials to work at the ONCB which helped strengthen the relationship between the two agencies which led to better working achievement.

The Thai delegation also discussed with the Customs representatives of the Incheon International Airport and observed the immigration system at the Section on the Data Analysis of the In-coming Travelers, learnt the warning system of the airlines before arrival to Korea and visited the Inspection of Imported Goods Section. The Thai delegation was pleased to enhance closer cooperation on drug control as well as to exchange working experiences between officials of the two countries to develop their potential and it was highly beneficial to expand cooperation on drug control with the security related agencies of South Korea. It was also fruitful in developing the basic training infrastructure and tactical training which could be adjusted to the ONCB's Project to Develop the International Narcotics Control College and the varieties of the Project to Develop the Potential of the Drug Operational Officials.



## International Narcotics Control College (INCC)

### The Establishment of the International Narcotics Control College, the ONCB



The Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) took pride in receiving area of the Hall of Opium from the Mae Fah Luang Foundation. The Hall of Opium was originated from the aspiration of Her Royal Highness Princess Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani, when she visited the Golden Triangle Area which located on the borders of 3 countries, namely Lao PDR, Myanmar and Thailand, which was known to the world as a massive land for opium poppy cultivation,

production, and trafficking causing damage to the country's reputation and image in the eyes of the world.

The Hall of Opium was originated from the aspiration of Her Royal Highness Princess Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani, or the late Princess Mother, due to the success of the Doi Tung Development Project in reducing the supply of drug production and trafficking, the late Princess Mother would like the people to be aware of the danger of drug in order to reduce drug demand, therefore, Mae Fah Luang Foundation proceeded according to Her Royal Highness's aspiration by building the Hall of Opium at in the area of Ban Sop Ruak, Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province, the Foundation had collected the data on opium and other drugs since 1994 and the Hall of Opium was constructed in 1999 for exhibition, Hall of Opium was the fruitful result of the aspiration of Her Royal Highness Princess Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani.



Later, in the year 2020, the ONCB had the idea to establish the International Narcotics Control College, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General of the NCB received the area of the Hall of Opium from M.R.Disnadda Diskul, the then Chairman of the Mae Fah Luang Foundation. On September 27, 2021, The Forest Department considered and approved the ONCB's request and gave permission to the ONCB

to make use of or to live in the reserved forest area of 156-3-03 Rai (24.96 hectares) of Nam Ma Forest and Sop Ruak Forest in Wiang Sub-district, Chiang Saen District, Chiang Rai Province for the period of 30 years to continually expand the aspiration of Her Royal Highness Princess Srinagarindra Boromarajajonani, the late Princess Mother, as well as to correspond with the vision of the ONCB's Secretary-General who determined to promote the ONCB to serve as the center for narcotics control focusing on active working and giving priority on the development of knowledge, skills, experiences and building-up learning process on international narcotics control to cope with the ever changing and more complicated drug situation in all dimensions in terms of technology, society, economy in particular it required joint efforts which needed to be built-up and to increase network in order to elevate the international cooperation in a solid, sustainable and concrete way.



## Missions of the International Narcotics Control College: INCC



1. Support and manage academic and operational trainings on drug prevention and suppression for Office of Narcotics Control Board's personnel along with associated agencies both domestically and internationally
2. Promote and develop its museum to be a learning center on drug prevention for children, youth, and the public
3. Coordinate and develop cooperation with international agencies for academic and operational trainings on drug prevention and suppression
4. Conduct academic researches and experiment with growing narcotic plants to create knowledge and further develop policy and economic aspects of narcotic plants
5. Manage facility and surrounding area to be a new modern learning center that creates balance of nature





# **Chapter 7: International Cooperation**



## International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (26 June)



The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has designated June 26 as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking since 1987. Thailand has joined the global anti-drug campaign, with relevant government, private, and public agencies/organizations organizing special campaign activities since 2007. The ONCB has launched a public relations campaign to create a flow of participation from all sectors in solving drug problems through an integrated local-level driving mechanism, educational institutes, youth organizations, the Coordinating Center for the Prevention and Solution of Drug Problems in the Youth Sector (PWP), villages/communities, strong communities, the National Mother Village Fund, and the Constitutional Convention (Social Media). The ONCB has also produced and disseminated the media to raise public awareness in support of related agencies and organizations in both the central and regional areas.



Watch full video on YouTube

H.E. General Prayut Chan-o-cha, the Prime Minister, made a National Statement on 2022 International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking. His Excellency statement had been broadcast on Television, Facebook and YouTube



H.E. Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice, made a statement on 2022 International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking over ONCB website.



## Bilateral Cooperation

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### Australia



On May 11, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), attended the Trilateral Cooperation Meeting held at the Amari Phuket Hotel in Phuket, Thailand, which was co-hosted by the ONCB, the Australian Federal Police (AFP), and the Royal Thai Police's Narcotics Suppression Bureau (NSB). The meeting brought together drug enforcement agencies from Thailand, Australia, Malaysia, and Indonesia.

Mr. Simon Lalic, an AFP senior officer, Police Lieutenant General Sarayuth Songvanphokai, the NSB Commander-in-Chief, as well as Malaysian and Indonesian delegates, attended the meeting. In this regard, the participants exchanged intelligence in order to closely monitor transnational drug trafficking networks that were of mutual concern. They studied these networks' movements and trafficking routes, as well as explored techniques for intercepting methamphetamine and stopping its spread from Golden Triangle producing locations to destination countries. They also looked into how to improve international cooperation in the fight against transnational crime in Southeast Asia.

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On May 31, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from the Australian Federal Police (AFP) delegation, led by Mr. Simon Lalic, AFP Senior Officer, at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. In the meeting, the Secretary-General, NCB, highlighted the fruitful collaboration between the ONCB and the

AFP, particularly in the areas of investigation, suppression, and support for forensic drug analysis under the AMPLIO project. The AFP delegation expressed their sincere appreciation for the ONCB's ongoing cooperation, which has led to significant achievements, especially in utilizing intelligence for the investigation and dismantling of drug trafficking networks. The Australian side also expressed interest in expanding this collaboration to a regional level.



On June 27, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Mr. John Tanti, Commander of the Australian Federal Police (AFP) of the state of Western Australia, and an AFP delegation at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. The discussions focused on law enforcement cooperation, particularly addressing the threats posed by illegal motorcycle gangs in both Thailand and Australia. Thailand reaffirmed its readiness to assist and support the AFP in various aspects of their operations, and expressed willingness to serve as a focal point to strengthen relations between the AFP and law enforcement agencies in neighboring countries within the region.

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During September 26 - 29, 2022, Mr. Wissanu Krea-ngam, Deputy Prime Minister, led a Thai delegation on its official visit to Australia. The delegation included Mr. Somsak Thepsuthin, Minister of Justice; Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB); and representatives from the Narcotics Suppression Bureau, Royal Thai Police, Thai Customs, Armed Forces Security Center, Royal Thai Armed Forces Headquarters, and the ONCB. The delegation participated in high-level policy discussions and study visits focused on Thai-Australian cooperation on narcotics control in Sydney and Canberra. In addition, the Thai delegation visited the Drug Court in Parramatta, New South Wales, to gain insights into the criminal justice system for drug-related cases, including the court's structure and operations, diversion measures, treatment programs, skills training, reintegration processes, and monitoring of drug addicts. They also observed court proceedings and demonstrations.

After that, the delegation went to the Australian Federal Police Eastern Command (AFP EC). During the session, they were briefed on the AFP's structure and mission, as well as visited a drug analysis laboratory. They also discussed progress and collaboration in drug prevention and suppression, drug analysis for intelligence purposes, and tracking the origins of drugs. The delegation then met with the Australian Border Force (ABF) to receive a briefing on systematic ship and watercraft inspections and discuss ways to improve mutual collaboration. They also visited ABF's Majura International Training Complex, which offers a variety of training programs for both local and international police officers in the Asia-Pacific region, as well as the tactical safety training zones, which simulate realistic conditions to prepare personnel for real-life situations.

The delegation was then briefed on drug forensic analysis at the AFP's Science and Technology Center. They were informed about the use of forensic drug analysis results in conjunction with intelligence data to identify production sites and sources of drugs, precursors, and chemicals. They also had official discussions with the forensic and intelligence teams in charge of the AMPLIO project, a Thai-Australian collaboration on drug analysis and intelligence. In this regard, the Minister of Justice





thanked the Australian side for their support and promotion of the AMPLIO project, and expressed a willingness to expand cooperation in the exchange of drug analysis data in the future. Finally, the delegation held official discussions with Australia's Attorney-General, promoting cooperation in various aspects of drug control, such as drug suppression, border drug interdiction and law enforcement, forensic drug analysis and the AMPLIO project, drug laws, asset seizure and related measures, technical cooperation in drug prevention and treatment, and personnel development at the International Narcotics Control College. Both parties praised the two countries' long-standing effective cooperation and pledged to promote and strengthen it further.





On October 7, 2022, Mr. Somsak Thepsuthin, the Minister of Justice, received a courtesy call from Ms. Angela Jane Macdonald, the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Australia to Thailand, at the Reception Room, Ministry of Justice, Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Wichai Chaiyamongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), represented the ONCB in the courtesy call. During the meeting, both sides discussed the visit of the Thai Minister of Justice to Australia during 26 - 29 September 2022 in Sydney and Canberra, Australia, which focused on policy discussions and cooperation in drug prevention and suppression between Thailand and Australia. The Thai Minister of Justice expressed gratitude to Australia for the warm welcome during the visit, noting that it facilitated an exchange of strategies to address drug issues. He then highlighted the close and effective collaboration between the drug enforcement agencies of both countries, including the sharing of experiences in asset seizure from drug trafficking networks, which is a key focus for Thailand as it emphasizes dismantling drug trade networks under the Narcotics Code.

## Cambodia



On April 12, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), presided over a meeting to discuss the progress of an investigation into the arrest of a Thai suspect found in possession of a Category 1 narcotic (crystal methamphetamine) weighing 989 grams, concealed inside an old printer, and discovered on April 7, 2022. The meeting took place via video conference at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, with Ms. Davina Copelin, an Australian Federal Police (AFP) representative, and Pol. Gen. Dr. Meas Vyrith, Secretary-General of the National Authority for Combating Drugs (NACD) of Cambodia, attending the meeting. The discovered narcotics were originally delivered from Cambodia in a parcel intended for Australia. The investigation found that the smuggling operation was carried out by a network of West African drug traffickers who used Thai women as couriers to transport drug-laden parcels overseas. Thailand and Cambodia will continue their cooperative investigation to catch the remaining members of this network.





## China



On September 6, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Pol. Maj. Gen. Wen Yonggang, the Counsellor and Police Attaché of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Kingdom of Thailand, along with his delegation, during their courtesy visit at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. During the meeting, the Secretary-General, NCB, expressed gratitude towards the Chinese side for its consistent support, especially in areas such as the Thailand-China Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation, the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC), intelligence sharing, extradition, illicit drug testing, and Chinese language training. Additionally, he also introduced the International Narcotics Control College (INCC), a regional training center in Chiang Rai Province established by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB), and extended an invitation for China's support and involvement in the college. In response, Pol. Maj. Gen. Wen Yonggang agreed to continue supporting the ONCB and expressed his willingness to provide further cooperation. The meeting concluded with an assurance from the Secretary-General, NCB, that Thailand is ready to cooperate and assist China in all aspects of narcotics control operations.

## France



On June 13, 2022, Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice, received a courtesy call from Mr. Thierry Mathou, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of France to Thailand, and his delegation at the Reception Room, Ministry of Justice, Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, the Secretary-General, NCB, represented the ONCB in the courtesy call. In this regard, the Ambassador thanked the Minister for his warm welcome and congratulated the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the two countries on signing the Roadmap Plan to improve cooperation between Thailand and France, which also covers cooperation on justice and security matters, in particular, money laundering, oversea offenses, child abuse, and funding for courts and judges. In this regard, the Ministry of Justice, the ONCB, and relevant agencies expressed their willingness to enhance cooperation in investigating transnational organized crime in Thailand by exchanging intelligence between the two countries.



## Indonesia

On July 11, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Pol. Col. Endon Nurchahyo, the Police Attaché of the Embassy of the Republic of Indonesia in Thailand, at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. During the meeting, the Secretary-General, NCB, praised Thailand and Indonesia's long-standing cooperation in narcotics control, particularly the alternative development project in Aceh Province, Indonesia, which is jointly supported by the ONCB and the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage and aims to improve the quality of life for the local population while reducing drug crop cultivation. Additionally, the Secretary-General, NCB, discussed Thailand's newly enforced Narcotics Code and the guidelines following the removal of marijuana from the country's list of controlled substances, as Thailand was in the process of passing legislation to appropriately regulate marijuana use. In response, the Indonesian Police Attaché expressed his intention to share this information with Indonesians living in Thailand. The meeting concluded with the Secretary-General, NCB, assuring Indonesia of the ONCB's readiness to provide cooperation and assistance in all aspects of narcotics control.





## Japan



On October 26, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotic Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Mr. UDAGAWA Yoshihiro, Director of Drugs and Firearms Division, National Police Agency (NPA) of Japan, and his delegation at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. In this regard, Mr. UDAGAWA Yoshihiro expressed appreciation for the ONCB and NPA's long-standing collaboration and support in drug prevention and suppression operations. He additionally discussed the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the drug situation in Japan, including an increase in drug smuggling into the country via parcels as a result of border closures. He also complimented the ONCB for supporting the stationing of NPA personnel at the ONCB office, which has improved the effectiveness and speed of drug control operations through excellent cooperation between the two agencies. On this occasion, the Secretary-General, NCB, underscored the readiness to coordinate and exchange drug intelligence with one another, as well as the establishment of mechanisms for intercepting drugs being trafficked out of Thailand, such as the Airport Interdiction Task Force (AITF) at international airports and the Seaport Interdiction Task Force (SITF) at international seaports. Furthermore, he also mentioned the ONCB's willingness to support and provide further assistance if Japanese authorities apprehend Thai nationals involved in drug-related offenses in Japan. NPA ensured its eagerness to cooperate in addressing the issue of drug trafficking, which posed a threat to global society, and was committed to enhancing this collaboration with ONCB in the future.



## Korea



During May 23 - 27, 2022, ONCB delegates met with Mr. Hong Wan Hee, Director of Narcotics and Organized Crime Division, Supreme Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Korea (SPO), and his delegation during a study visit to Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai Provinces, Thailand, to discuss drug prevention and suppression efforts as well as alternative development programs in Northern Thailand. On this occasion, the SPO delegation was briefed on the overall drug situation in Thailand, the operations of the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC), the International Narcotics Control College (INCC), the background and operations of drug trafficking interception along the Mekong River, and paid visits to the Opium Hall Museum, the Golden Triangle Viewpoint, the Mae Sai Customs House, and various local drug control projects.



On October 27, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Ms. Kim Boseong, Director of the Narcotics and Organized Crime Division of the Anti-Corruption and Organized Crime Bureau of the Supreme Prosecutor's Office (SPO), along with her delegation at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. The SPO delegation expressed their appreciation to the ONCB for its cordial hospitality and cooperation, particularly in hosting the SPO liaison officer stationed at the ONCB. The Secretary-General, NCB, thanked the SPO for its cooperation in all areas of narcotics control and praised the SPO's forensic scientific accomplishments. He also added that the ONCB would appreciate it if the SPO could share their forensic science expertise with ONCB officers and collaborate with the Korean Coast Guard (KCG) to co-host training sessions for ONCB officers in the Republic of Korea. In addition, the ONCB held a signing ceremony to receive investigation equipment under the SPO's Asia-Pacific Information and Coordination Center for Combating Drug Crimes (APICC) cooperation framework, which will be used by ONCB personnel during their investigations.

## Lao PDR

On March 4, 2022, Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice, led the Thai delegation to the 18<sup>th</sup> Thailand-Lao PDR Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation (Ministerial-level), held in Vientiane, Lao PDR. In the meeting, both sides emphasized the importance of cooperation to jointly mitigate the impact of drugs on their respective countries and the broader region. They agreed to continue collaborating in various areas, particularly in intelligence sharing and the pursuit of alleged offenders. Thailand expressed its willingness to provide support and enhance knowledge, with plans to further develop the Youth Network on Drugs Prevention Programme. Furthermore, the Thai delegation paid a courtesy call on Dr. Phankham Viphavanh, Prime Minister of Lao PDR, to report on the outcomes of the bilateral meeting. In this connection, the Thai side praised Lao PDR for prioritizing drug control as a national agenda and discussed strategies for raising public awareness and providing knowledge on narcotics.



On July 25, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), and Pol. Col. Inpong Chanthavongsa, Head of the Permanent Secretariat of the Laos National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision (LCDC), Lao PDR, co-chaired the opening ceremony of a training programme on drug network analysis using the i2 Analyst's Notebook (preliminary) at the Office of the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC) in Vientiane, Lao

PDR. The programme aimed to develop the skills of Lao law enforcement officials, enhance their knowledge of technological investigations, and strengthen cooperation between Thailand and Lao PDR in suppressing major drug lords, in line with the outcomes of the 18th Thailand-Lao PDR Bilateral Meeting on Drug Control Cooperation. During the programme, ONCB representatives delivered a lecture to Lao investigative officials. The Secretary-General, NCB, also praised the achievements resulting from the close cooperation between Thailand and Lao PDR in various areas, including technical matters, narcotics control, rehabilitation of drug users, drug testing, and the investigation and suppression of major transnational drug dealers, which have led to the arrest of drug dealers and the substantial seizure of assets belonging to drug trafficking networks. Lastly, the Secretary-General, NCB, emphasized the importance of further elevating the level of cooperation between Thailand and Lao PDR to suppress drug trafficking networks, in accordance with the policies and directives of General Prayut Chan-cha, Prime Minister of Thailand, and Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice.





On July 26, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), together with Pol. Col. Inpong Chanthavongsa, Secretary of the Lao National Commission for Drug Control and Supervision (LCDC), and Pol. Col. Buaphanh Phongmany, Deputy National Police Chief and Head of the Narcotics Control Corps, Lao PDR, jointly presided over the opening ceremony of the Ban Thuay drug interdiction checkpoint in Tha Phabad Town, Bolikhamxai Province, Lao PDR. During the ceremony, the Secretary-General, NCB, handed over essential equipment for operating the checkpoint to Lao police officers and praised the longstanding anti-drug cooperation between Thailand and Lao PDR, which has evolved into a "Strategic Partnership for Growth and Sustainable Development." He also commended Lao PDR for its dedicated efforts in combating drug problems and emphasized the Minister of Justice's policy which aims to strengthen drug prevention and control cooperation between the two countries. The Ban Thuay drug interdiction checkpoint is significant as it is the first checkpoint funded by Thailand under the 2021 Letter of Agreement on Cooperation on Law Enforcement and Narcotics Control between the ONCB, Thailand, and the LCDC, Lao PDR. This checkpoint serves as a strategic point for Lao PDR, helping to prevent drugs from entering northeastern Thailand, its neighboring countries, and destinations outside the region. It also plays a crucial role in intercepting the smuggling of illicit precursors and chemicals into the Golden Triangle.





## Myanmar

On January 28, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), and Pol. Brig. Gen. Win Naing, Head of the Drug Enforcement Division under the Myanmar Police Force and Joint Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC), held discussions on drug interdiction operations along the Thailand-Myanmar border as part of the Golden Triangle Joint Action Plan 1511/22, scheduled for February to May 2022, at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thailand-Myanmar Friendship Bridge, Mae Sai District, Chiang Rai Province, Thailand. The joint operation aimed to exchange information, conduct further investigations, pursue alleged offenders, carry out land and river patrols, and establish additional checkpoints and drug interdiction sites. As part of the agreement, Myanmar committed to expediting the pursuit of Thai offenders who had evaded arrest warrants and fled into Myanmar, as requested by the Thai side. In return, the Thai side expressed its readiness to conduct training to enhance the capabilities of Myanmar officials in various areas, including evidence collection, drug testing, and tactical operations. Additionally, the Secretary-General, NCB, provided investigative equipment to the CCDAC to improve the capabilities of its officials in narcotics control. Lastly, the Joint Secretary of the CCDAC thanked the ONCB and assured their readiness to fully cooperate with Thailand in narcotics control efforts.





On February 10, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Thailand-Myanmar Sustainable Alternative Development Project at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General, NCB, and Mr. Apikit Ch. Rojprasert, Director of Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, witnessed the signing ceremony, and both parties exchanged the signed MoU through diplomatic channels. The Thailand-Myanmar Sustainable Alternative Development Project (2021 - 2026) represents a collaboration between the Thai government, led by the ONCB and the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage, and the Myanmar government, represented by the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC). The project's objectives are to strengthen security along the Thailand-Myanmar border, reduce drug-related problems in strategic areas of Southeast Asia, and enhance Thailand's role as a leader in alternative development in the region. Implemented in the Nong Taya area of Pin Lao District in Southern Shan State and the northern Tachileik area of Tachileik District in Eastern Shan State, the project aims to serve as a model for holistic and integrated area development, addressing economic, social, and environmental dimensions. The project has provided alternative sources of income for communities, reducing reliance on illicit drug trade, in line with "the King's Philosophy" and the "Mae Fah Luang Approach," which are sustainable drug control strategies that align with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





During April 22 - 27, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), led the Thai delegation and chaired the 23<sup>rd</sup> Thailand-Myanmar Bilateral Meeting on Drug Prevention and Suppression Cooperation, held in Bangkok and Krabi, Thailand. Pol. Brig. Gen. Win Naing, Commander of the Drug Suppression Police and Secretary of the Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control (CCDAC), led the Myanmar delegation and served as co-chairman. During the meeting, drug situation was discussed, with both countries acknowledging the growing epidemic of synthetic drugs. Both sides agreed to continue their cooperation in drug control by enhancing coordination, exchanging information, controlling precursors and chemicals, and establishing dedicated liaisons to coordinate, monitor, and inspect the import and export of precursors and chemicals used in drug production. In addition, the meeting strengthened cooperation in maritime interception. The Myanmar delegation expressed their appreciation and readiness to support the development and operation of the International Narcotics Control College (INCC), while the Thai side offered to assist Myanmar with detection and tactical training for drug prevention and suppression.





## New Zealand

On November 23, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Ms. Christine Stevenson, Chief Executive Officer and Auditor of New Zealand Customs, and her delegation at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. Ms. Stevenson discussed the gravity of the current drug situation in New Zealand, in which high doses of methamphetamine and ice were spreading like wildfire, and thanked the ONCB for assisting New Zealand in investigating and issuing the largest-ever arrest of Laotian and Vietnamese warrants for the suspect in the smuggling of 470 kilograms of methamphetamine hidden in an electric motor shipped from Thailand. The Secretary-General, NCB, demonstrated that the ONCB has a framework to combat drug trafficking through the AITF and SITF taskforces, which includes collaboration with relevant partner agencies. Furthermore, the New Zealand side discussed the case of Ice's arrest in Nong Khai Province in October 2022 and requested that drug samples be analyzed in a New Zealand laboratory.

In this regard, the ONCB expressed its willingness to coordinate with the Ministry of Public Health regarding drug exports to the Kingdom of New Zealand and confirmed sharing intelligence in order to further investigate and extend drug cases and locate the masterminds of major drug trafficking groups. Finally, the ONCB thanked the New Zealand's Customs and Police for their commitment to support the Basic Intelligence Technique Training Program for drug enforcement officers in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, and Vietnam at the INCC in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand.





## Saudi Arabia

On June 20, 2022, Mr. Don Pramudwinai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, chaired a meeting to follow up on the visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia by a delegation comprising both governmental and private sector representatives from Thailand at the meeting room of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this regard, Mr. Mana Siripityawattana, Deputy Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), represented the ONCB in the meeting, which aimed to track the progress of various cooperation initiatives and push for concrete actions within a set timeframe, focusing on sustainable relationships and cooperation. The discussions covered political and security issues, economic, social, and cultural matters, as well as cooperation between the Thai and Saudi private sectors. Additionally, ONCB reported on the progress in drafting an agreement on combating drug trafficking and precursor substances between Thailand and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. The ONCB also proposed revising the agreement in order to include comprehensive measures such as drug prevention and knowledge exchange beyond drug suppression. The meeting acknowledged these points and committed to closely monitoring progress on these issues with the Saudi side.





## Singapore

On June 21, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Mr. Harry Goh, Minister and Minister Counsellor, along with his delegation at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, focusing on strengthening drug control cooperation between Thailand and Singapore. During the meeting, the Secretary-General, NCB, expressed his gratitude to Singapore for its ongoing support in the fight against drug trafficking, particularly in the Golden Triangle region. He highlighted Singapore's contribution to this effort by providing an English training course for Thai officers in specific areas and donating three patrol boats to assist in operations. The Singaporean delegation reaffirmed their commitment to collaborate with Thailand on both technical and operational fronts to address drug-related issues in the region. The Secretary-General, NCB, also mentioned the establishment of the International Narcotics Control College (INCC) by the ONCB, which aims to enhance technical knowledge on drug control at both the local and regional levels.





## United States of America

On March 2, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, NCB, received a courtesy call from the DEA delegation, led by Mr. John P. Scott, Regional Director for the Far East, at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on the occasion of his appointment as the Director stationed at the Embassy of the United States of America in Thailand. In this regard, the DEA representative praised the long-standing good cooperation between the two agencies and confirmed that they will continue to support each other's operations. Additionally, the Secretary-General, NCB, mentioned the objectives of ONCB, which focus not only on drug suppression but also on drug network investigation, money laundering, chemical and precursor control, and a comprehensive intelligence database. Moreover, he proposed the possibility of a joint project between two agencies to establish a center of investigation and extend results in drug cases. The DEA representative appreciated the long-term cooperation between the two agencies and reiterated their commitment to support their operations in the future.







## Vietnam

On August 1, 2022, Mr. Thanakorn Khaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), received a courtesy call from Pol. Maj. Gen. Dao Ngoc Dinh, Director-General of the Department of Police Strategy, and his delegation at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand. The Thai side provided an in-depth briefing on the current drug situation in the Mekong River Basin, detailing the analytical approaches and drug control policies implemented in Thailand. The discussion also covered strategies for intercepting and controlling drug trafficking, particularly focusing on substances, techniques, and chemicals smuggled via sea and air channels. As part of the visit, the Vietnamese delegation also toured the ONCB Operation Center, where they received a briefing on drug analysis in Thailand. In this regard, the Vietnamese side reaffirmed its commitment to cooperate with the ONCB in the investigation of drug smuggling, precursors, and chemicals, as well as to further strengthen the partnerships between the two countries in combating drug-related challenges.

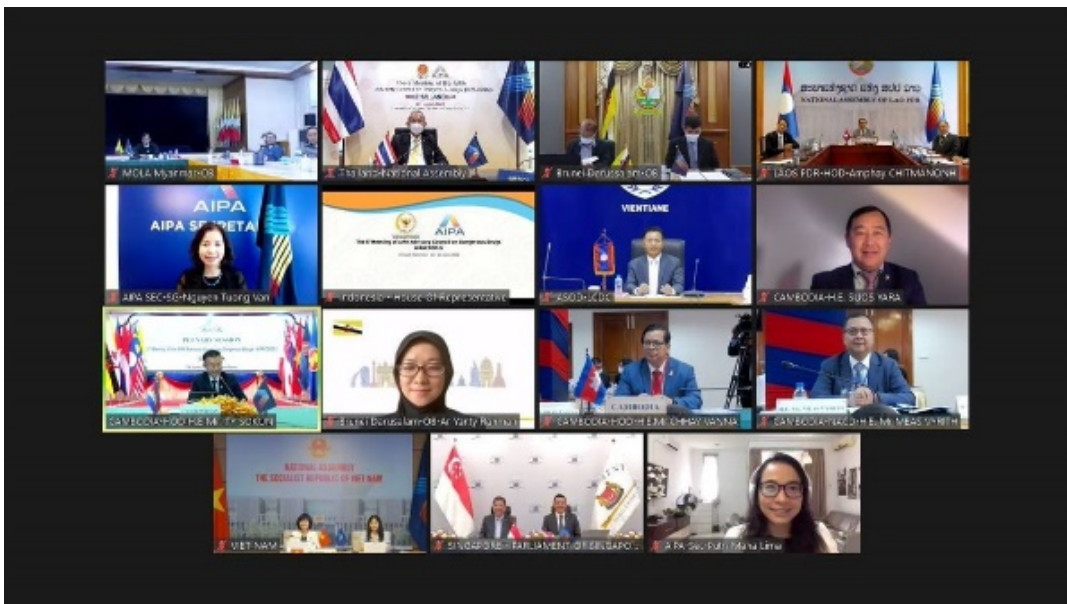




## Multilateral Cooperation ASEAN

### The 15<sup>th</sup> Session of the ASEAN Parliament on Dangerous Drugs (AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs: AIPACODD)

On June 24, 2022, ONCB representatives participated in the 15<sup>th</sup> session of the ASEAN Parliament on Dangerous Drugs (AIPA Advisory Council on Dangerous Drugs: AIPACODD) via video conference at the Secretariat of the House of Representatives, held under the theme "Tackling Common Challenges towards a Drug-Free ASEAN Community." During the meeting, participants discussed guidelines for preventing the smuggling of precursors and chemicals. The Secretariat of the House of Representatives proposed legislative guidelines, including drafting resolutions to enhance control over these substances. The session also emphasized the importance of cooperation through various regional projects, such as the ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network (ADMN), the ASEAN Airport Interdiction Task Force (AAITF), and the ASEAN Seaport Interdiction Task Force (SITF). These initiatives aim to combat the smuggling of precursors and chemicals in the Golden Triangle, ultimately contributing to the goal of a drug-free ASEAN community.





### 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Meeting (ADMN)

On August 24, 2022, Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), presided over the opening ceremony of the 13<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Drug Monitoring Network Meeting (ADMN) via video conference. The meeting was attended by Ms. Rachanikorn Sarasiri, Director of the ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center (ASEAN-NARCO), along with representatives from the ASEAN Secretariat, 10 ASEAN member countries, and members of the Narcotics Academic Network. The meeting provided a platform for participants to exchange information on the drug situation across the region and to discuss key issues related to data import into the ADMN System. The gathering aimed to strengthen regional cooperation in monitoring and addressing drug-related challenges in ASEAN.





## The 43<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matter

On November 1, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), led the Thai delegation to participate in the 43<sup>rd</sup> ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD) held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The meeting aimed to review progress and further strengthen regional cooperation in combating drug-related issues. During the meeting, the 2021 ASEAN Drug Monitoring Report was presented, providing insights into the regional drug situation. In his statement, the Secretary-General, NCB, highlighted Thailand's ongoing efforts to address drug problems and urged ASEAN member states to enhance their cooperation in controlling sodium cyanide, benzyl chloride, and benzyl cyanide used for illicit drug production in the Golden Triangle. The Thai delegation also reported on the domestic drug situation and shared updates on the activities and achievements of the ASEAN Narcotics Cooperation Center (ASEAN-NARCO). Furthermore, Thailand was appointed to co-chair the meeting between ASOD and Japan and tasked with chairing the sub-group meeting on drug suppression, reflecting its active role in regional drug control efforts.

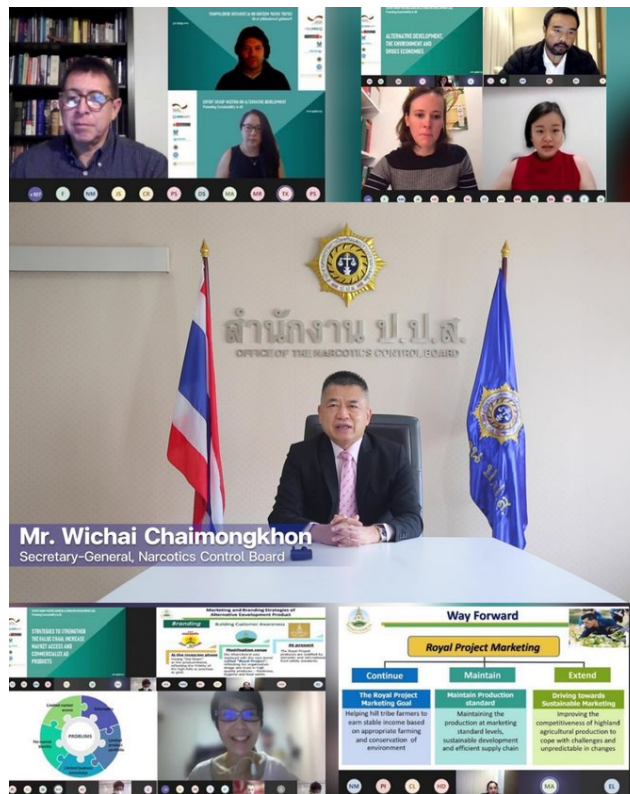




## United Nations

### Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development to increase the Sustainable of development

On January 26, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), delivered a welcome remark for the participants of the Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development, held via video conference and hosted by the Office of the Narcotics Control Board (ONCB) in cooperation with the Global Partnership on Drug Policy and Development (GPPDD) under the German Federal Enterprise for International Cooperation (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit: GIZ), the Federal Government of Germany, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under Royal Patronage, and the UNODC. The Secretary-General, NCB, praised Thailand, Germany, Peru, and the UNODC for their consistent efforts to strengthen the network of experts on alternative development (AD). He also emphasized Thailand's policy on AD as a solution to drug problems, as well as its willingness to share best practices and experiences on AD for the sustainable development of the economy, society, and environment. In this regard, participants shared their best practices and experiences with alternative development and discussed the relationship between medicinal cannabis cultivation, scientific research, and alternative development.



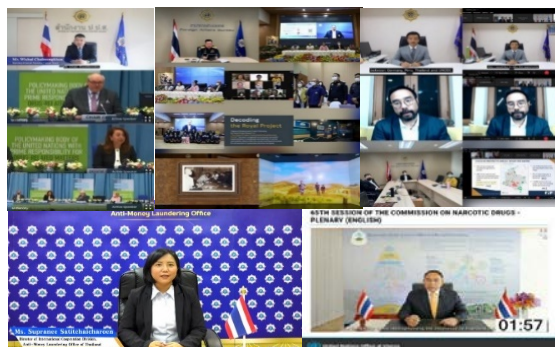


## The 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on Narcotics Drugs (CND)

During March 14 - 18, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General of the Narcotic Control Board (NCB), led the Thai delegation to attend the 65<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) via video conference at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, while the onsite meeting was held at the Vienna International Center. The meeting, chaired by H.E. Mr. Ghislain D’Hoop, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Belgium, emphasized monitoring the implementation of the 2019 Ministerial Declaration under the joint commitment on addressing the world drug problem and voting on WHO proposals to change the scope of narcotics and psychotropic substance control by adding six substances under international control, namely: bupropion, metonitazene, eutylone, 4-AP, 1-boc-4-AP, and norfentanyl.

The head of the Thai delegation made a statement on the topic of “A strong recovery from the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Epidemic in the course of achieving the SDGs.” The statement involved raising an issue on drug law reforms in Thailand in accordance with the Narcotics Code, showing key progress on alternative development, promoting cooperation in solving the drug crisis in the Golden Triangle, and pledging to commit to the implementation of all international commitments while upholding the principles of equal rights, mutual respect, and shared responsibilities. Moreover, the Thai delegation also participated in the CND side event, titled “Rapid Evolution of Drug Trafficking in the Mekong,” under the framework of the Mekong MOU, hosted by the National Narcotics Control Commission (NNCC) of the People’s Republic of China (PRC). ONCB also sponsored this side event with the aim of raising awareness about the growth and rapidly evolving trend of illicit drug markets in the Mekong subregion.

Thailand also participated in the side event titled “Youth Vaccination: Equipping to Build Youth’s Life Immunity to Cope with Changes and Risky Behaviors,” organized by The Royal Project Foundation in collaboration with the ONCB. At the event, Gen. Kampanat Ruddit, Privy Councillor and Chairman of The Royal Project Foundation, delivered remarks emphasizing the lessons learned from over 50 years of alternative development, which are based on the principles of understanding, access, and development, guided by the philosophy of a sufficiency economy and a human-centered approach. These efforts have promoted self-reliance among highland residents in every aspect, including the economy, society, and the environment. Thailand also hosted a virtual exhibition titled “Decoding the Royal Project” and participated in a side event hosted by the Permanent Mission of Germany on the topic of “Promoting Sustainability in Alternative Development,” which focused on progress in the environmental aspects of alternative development as a long-term solution to drug problems.





## Study visits and meeting on the development of the International Narcotics Control College (INCC)

During March 21 - 22, 2022, Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), led the ONCB delegation in a study visit and meeting on the development of the International Narcotics Control College (INCC) in collaboration with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), represented by Mr. Jeremy Douglas, UNODC Regional Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand. The participants also visited the Hall of Opium, the INCC Office, and the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC). During discussions on future cooperation, the UNODC expressed its willingness to support the INCC with management expertise, drug control curriculum development, and the establishment of a learning center. Additionally, the UNODC offered assistance with the renovation of INCC buildings and infrastructure, aiming to transform the INCC into a regional hub for human resource development, conferences, and training on drug control. The UNODC also indicated its readiness to enhance data analysis capabilities for the SMCC to improve data utilization across the six Mekong countries.





## UNODC Regional Program for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (2022 - 2026)

On March 30, 2022, Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanan, Deputy Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), attended the launch of the UNODC Regional Program for Southeast Asia and the Pacific (2022 - 2026) at the United Nations Convention Center in Bangkok, Thailand. The event featured speeches by Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of the UNODC, as well as representatives from the National Security Council and the Thailand Institute of Justice. UNODC officials presented the Action Plan for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, designed to address regional crime and security challenges. Leveraging its support mechanisms for member states, the UNODC anticipated the plan would be instrumental in helping countries achieve the goals outlined in the UNODC's global strategy and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.



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### Executive Director of UNODC's official visit to Thailand (1)

On March 30, 2022, Mr. Somsak Thepsutin, Minister of Justice, received a courtesy call from Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of the UNODC, at the Reception Room, Ministry of Justice, Bangkok, Thailand, during her official visit to the country. Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), joined the meeting as a representative of the ONCB. The Minister of Justice expressed gratitude to the UNODC for its support in addressing drug problems and establishing the International Narcotics Control College (INCC). In response, the UNODC Executive Director commended Thailand for the enactment of the Narcotics Code and reaffirmed the organization's commitment to providing technical assistance, knowledge sharing, and expert support for its implementation. Furthermore, Ms. Waly encouraged Thailand to take a leadership role in the control of precursors and chemicals within the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS).







## Executive Director of UNODC's official visit to Thailand (2)



During March 31 - April 1, 2022, Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), and M.L. Dispanadda Diskul, Chief Executive Officer of the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under the Royal Patronage, welcomed Ms. Ghada Waly, Executive Director of the UNODC, and delegates

from the UNODC Southeast Asia and Pacific Office on her first visit to Thailand. The delegation visited the Doi Tung Development Project in Chiang Rai and the Roi Jai Rak Project in Chiang Mai, respectively. Both projects have employed alternative development to address narcotic crop cultivation in highlands and urban areas, focusing on human development to improve quality of life, eradicate poverty, and promote community participation with public, private, and civil society sectors for sustainable drug problem solutions. The UNODC delegates also attended a briefing on the drug situation in border areas and drug trafficking in the Golden Triangle and Mekong subregion at the Doi Chang Moob army outpost, and visited the tri-border area of Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos. In this connection, Ms. Ghada Waly expressed her interest in the drug situation and her willingness to support capacity building through trainings, provide appropriate equipment to intercept drug smuggling along the border, strengthen cooperation among local agencies, and support the BLO mechanism by emphasizing the ONCB's role in integrating national drug control efforts.



Moreover, both sides engaged in a dialogue on enhancing the International Narcotics Control

College (INCC) and the Safe Mekong Coordination Center (SMCC) at the Greater Mekong Lodge, followed by a visit to the Hall of Opium in Chiang Rai Province. The UNODC expressed its readiness to support the development of the INCC and SMCC through improved organizational management, narcotics control training programs, enhanced museums and learning centers, the utilization of information technology, expert recommendations, and the provision of equipment to address the regional drug problem in the subregion.





## Seminar on Thailand Policy Dialogue: Collaborating to Counter Transnational Organized Crimes

On May 5, 2022, ONCB representatives participated in the "Thailand Policy Dialogue: Collaborating to Counter Transnational Organized Crimes at Border Areas" seminar at the Millennium Hilton Hotel, Bangkok, Thailand. The seminar aimed to advance cooperation in addressing transnational crime in Thailand's border areas by exchanging views on policies and strategies related to security, border management cooperation within the ASEAN framework, and UNODC border management initiatives. The seminar also discussed the cooperation mechanisms of the Border Liaison Office (BLO) and conceptual frameworks for environmental crime. The event sought to enhance collaboration under the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and to promote cooperation at regional, sub-regional, and national levels to effectively prevent and address transnational crime challenges in Thailand. It also focused on preparing for emerging threats and ensuring effective actions while maintaining a balance between economic growth, national security, and human well-being.





## The 4<sup>th</sup> Maritime Exchange (DMX) Meeting

On June 14, 2022, Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), presided over the opening of Thailand's 4th Drug Maritime Exchange (DMX) meeting, which was held virtually via video conference at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, by the UNODC's Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP). Representatives from the ONCB, the Marine Police Division, and the Customs Department attended the meeting. The discussions focused on exchanging information about the current situation of maritime drug trafficking, including routes and methods of drug concealment. The panel also discussed the coordinated efforts of narcotics and maritime law enforcement authorities to identify strategies for combating drug trafficking networks. The participants emphasized the importance of exchanging detailed information on suspicious vessels and significant drug concealment strategies to improve the efficacy of monitoring and operations at both the national and regional levels. Furthermore, the UNODC reaffirmed its commitment to assisting Thailand in information exchange through the Drug Compendium and the Vessel of Interest list, as well as conducting research on emerging issues to raise awareness of the country's maritime drug trafficking situation, which will encourage collaborative efforts to address and resolve these challenges at the regional level.





## Launch of World Drug Report 2022 (UNODC) on World Drug Day

On June 27, 2022, the ONCB and the UNODC for Southeast Asia and the Pacific jointly launched the UNODC World Drug Report 2022 at the ONCB headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand, on the occasion of World Drug Day (June 26<sup>th</sup>). The event aimed to present the global drug situation, trends, and an analysis of the drug market, including production, trafficking, and consumption aspects, as well as the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The report serves as a valuable resource for relevant agencies and raises awareness of World Drug Day's significance. Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), highlighted the evolving drug situation, influenced by technological advancements and the COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to changes in drug production, trafficking methods employed by transnational criminal groups, and drug consumption patterns among various groups. Furthermore, Thailand remains committed to seeking innovative approaches to addressing the drug problem and has enacted the Narcotics Code, marking a significant shift in the country's drug policy. For the UNODC, Mr. Jeremy Douglas, UNODC Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific, emphasized the new challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic for criminal organizations engaged in illicit drug activities. He also underscored the importance of collaboration among all sectors and at all levels to prevent and address the drug problem, control precursor chemicals, and facilitate information sharing.





## Forum on Maritime Trafficking Routes in Southeast Asia (MTR - SEA) Regional Plenary 2022

During July 5 - 6, 2022, representatives of the ONCB participated in the Forum on Maritime Trafficking Routes in Southeast Asia (MTR - SEA) Regional Plenary 2022, held in Langkawi, Malaysia, by the Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) of the UNODC for the Southeast Asia and Pacific region. Representatives from drug law enforcement and maritime law enforcement agencies of the Republic of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and Thailand attended the plenary session, in which they reviewed the outcomes of the 2022 Drug Maritime Exchange (DMX) involving these five countries and facilitated the exchange of information on drug trafficking, with a focus on maritime routes and key issues in addressing drug trafficking during the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, the meeting provided recommendations to international organizations to support the capacity-building of officials in combating drug trafficking. The meeting highlighted the critical importance of gathering intelligence from coastal communities and utilizing technology to monitor vessel movements and track drug traffickers' communications. These measures aim to enhance understanding of the overall situation, improve effective information exchange, and strengthen mutual trust to combat maritime drug trafficking at both international and regional levels, as well as address various maritime threats across multiple dimensions.





### Courtesy visit of the UNODC’s Expert on Law Enforcement

During July 19 - 21, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), welcomed Ms. Jacquelyn Vallack, Law Enforcement Expert and Law Enforcement Training Curriculum Development Specialist from the UNODC, at the Hall of Opium in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand, during her visit to the International Narcotics Control College (INCC). During their discussions, the UNODC delegation provided guidance and recommendations on curriculum development, transforming the area into a public space, and promoting tourism for surrounding communities. The UNODC also expressed its willingness to coordinate with UNESCO, leveraging its expertise in museum design and information and communication technology, to provide further support. Additionally, the UNODC delegation conveyed their readiness to support research on narcotic crops and pilot projects on the cultivation of opium poppy and psilocybin mushrooms for medical and research purposes.





## Special consultation from the initiative of the Chair of the 65<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

On October 10, 2022, Ms. Srirakool Waeladee, Director of Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, along with relevant ONCB officials and representatives from the Ministry of Public Health, participated in a special consultation initiated by the Chair of the 65<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND). The consultation brought together experts from government agencies, United Nations entities, academia, and civil society. The Thai side delivered statements on two key topics: (1) "Best practices for addressing barriers to access to and availability of controlled substances for medical and scientific purposes, including within supply chains and during emergencies," where representatives from the Ministry of Public Health emphasized Thailand's commitment to policies that ensure the availability of essential medicines and promote access to healthcare, and (2) "Encouraging the engagement of patients, health workers, communities, and policymakers at the national and international levels to address the global drug crisis, including during emergencies," where representatives from the Ministry of Public Health shared Thailand's experiences in implementing the national health strategy amidst global challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic. The Thai side also highlighted significant progress in reforming drug laws, in alignment with the outcomes of the 2016 UNGASS and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which promote stakeholder engagement to address the growing challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.





## The 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (HONLAP)

On October 25, 2022, at the 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (HONLAP), Mr. Somsak Thepsuthin, Minister of Justice, delivered a speech via video conference on addressing regional drug challenges. He emphasized Thailand's intensified drug measures, including chemical import/export control, expanded drug offense investigations, asset forfeiture, voluntary drug treatment and rehabilitation for addicts, and severe punishment for government officials involved in drug offenses. Meanwhile, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), led the Thai delegation in exchanging information with member states on regional drug situations, successful outcomes, experiences, expertise, challenges, and approaches to addressing drug problems. Mr. Thanakorn Kaiyanunta, Deputy Secretary-General of the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), also met with Maj. Gen. Muhammad Aneeq Ur Rehman Malik, Chief of the Narcotics Suppression Unit, Anti-Narcotics Force (ANF), Islamic Republic of Pakistan, for a bilateral discussion at the United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, during the 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia, and the Pacific (HONLAP). Maj. Gen. Muhammad commended Thailand's achievements in national drug control and expressed Pakistan's desire to enhance drug control cooperation through proposed high-level visits, designated national focal points, and a joint working group for information exchange.







## UNODC's support for INCC

On November 28, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkol, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), assigned Mr. Samroeng Phumkhokrak, Director of the International Narcotics Control College (INCC), to formally accept a grant of 130,000 USD (approximately 4,657,575 THB) from Mr. Jeremy Douglas, Regional Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). This followed the official signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on supporting the INCC between the NCB and the UNODC in early November 2022. The funds will be utilized for the renovation of the second-floor office building and the enhancement of surrounding landscapes. This contribution builds upon previous equipment support provided in the 2021 fiscal year, including tablet PCs with computer-based training programs, office supplies, and expert consultations to aid in curriculum development. This comprehensive support is anticipated to solidify the INCC's position as a regional hub for drug-related education and training.





## **7<sup>th</sup> Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development (EGM on AD)**

During November 28 - December 1, 2022, Ms. Srirakool Waeladee, Director of Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, along with relevant ONCB officials, participated in the 7<sup>th</sup> Expert Group Meeting on Alternative Development (EGM on AD) in Chiang Rai Province, Thailand. The meeting was co-hosted by the ONCB, the Mae Fah Luang Foundation under the Royal Patronage (MFL), the Global Partnership on Drug Policies and Development (GPPD) under the German Corporation for International Cooperation (GIZ), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), under the theme "Moving Forward with More Comprehensive Alternative Development." The event was attended by 50 participants from 15 countries, including representatives from international organizations, government agencies, civil society, academia, and the private sector. The Thai side emphasized Thailand's commitment to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development as a vital approach to addressing the global drug problem and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In collaboration with the Royal Project Foundation and the Mae Fah Luang Foundation, the ONCB has continuously promoted alternative development initiatives to enhance community engagement in combating illicit crop cultivation and production while preserving the environment and promoting sustainable livelihoods. These efforts also aim to adapt these principles to urban settings to address other drug-related crimes with a people-centered approach.

The meeting also provided a platform for participants to exchange best practices and experiences in alternative development, including discussions on current trends and developments in global alternative development, particularly within the framework of the UNODC's 2021 - 2025 strategy. Key topics included alternative development in the Andean region, highlighted by a case study on recent developments in Colombia and perspectives from civil society. Additionally, innovative approaches to alternative development were explored through lessons learned from a field visit to the Roi Jai Rak project, as well as experiences from Brazil and Colombia. The meeting further examined alternative development in the context of agro-industry, using Mexico as a case study, and addressed the needs of gender and ethnic vulnerable groups, with an overview of the gender situation in drug-cultivating areas and alternative development projects in Peru. Moreover, a success story from Thailand was presented, showcasing the empowerment of women through alternative development, with the Doi Tung Royal Project in Chiang Rai serving as a case study. Participants also exchanged views on the intersection of alternative development and environmental sustainability, discussing topics from the 2022 World Drug Report's drug policy to the Hats on Hills project, which promotes sustainable economic, social, and environmental development through the Royal Project Foundation. Additionally, the meeting explored the use of carbon credit and carbon sink systems as alternative development tools to empower communities, as initiated by the Mae Fah Luang Foundation. Discussions also covered the design of payment for ecosystem services and the application of digital tools for calculating environmental impacts.





## Reconvened session of the 65<sup>th</sup> session of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)

On December 8 - 9, 2022, Ms. Srirakool Waeladee, Director of Foreign Affairs Bureau, ONCB, attended the reconvened session of the 65<sup>th</sup> Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND) via video conference. The meeting addressed and discussed policy and strategy management, administration, and budget allocation to align with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) policies and strategies for 2021-2025, with a focus on gender equality and geographical diversity. The meeting also reviewed the CND's operational reports to support the United Nations Economic and Social Council's (ECOSOC) program and implementation to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

According to the Thai statement, Thailand recognizes the critical role of the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) in assisting with the implementation of international drug control treaties and has consistently supported funding for INCB activities. The meeting also acknowledged Uzbekistan's intention to vie for a CND membership in 2024 - 2027, for which seven nations, including China, India, Qatar, Indonesia, Singapore, Thailand, and Japan, have announced their candidacies, resulting in competition among eight countries for seven seats.

Furthermore, the meeting discussed the implementation of the three international drug control conventions, particularly promoting international cooperation to ensure sufficient drugs and psychoactive substances for medical and scientific purposes while preventing misuse. Additionally, the World Health Organization (WHO) presented proposals resulting from the 45<sup>th</sup> Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD) meeting, which will be considered at the 66<sup>th</sup> CND session for potential amendments to international control measures on synthetic substances and psychoactive substances. The meeting also elected H.E. Mr. Miguel Camilo Ruiz Blanco, Colombia's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna, from the Latin American and Caribbean Group, as the CND Chair for the 66<sup>th</sup> session, succeeding the previous chair, H.E. Mr. Ghislain D'Hoop.





## Regional workshop under the Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyzes, Reporting, and Trends (Global SMART) project for East and Southeast Asia

On December 13, 2022, Mr. Wichai Chaimongkhon, Secretary-General, the Narcotics Control Board (NCB), delivered a welcome address to participants of the Regional Workshop under the Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyzes, Reporting, and Trends (Global SMART) Project for East and Southeast Asia, jointly organized by the NCB and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) at Pullman Bangkok Grande Sukhumvit, Bangkok. The workshop aimed to facilitate the exchange of information on the trafficking of synthetic drugs and precursor chemicals in Southeast Asia, including challenges, trends, and potential solutions. Participants also discussed strategies for addressing synthetic drug problems and guidelines for the safe handling and disposal of chemicals. The importance of international cooperation in controlling drugs and precursor chemicals, particularly in the Golden Triangle region, was emphasized. It was highlighted that such collaboration could effectively reduce both drug demand and supply, while simultaneously disrupting major drug syndicates.







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