



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

A scenic landscape featuring a wide river or lake in the foreground, a small island in the middle ground, and a town with buildings and a crane on the right bank. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear blue sky with a few clouds. A vertical blue bar is positioned to the left of the text.

Regional Programme for  
Southeast Asia and the Pacific  
2022-2026



## Non-traditional security threats in Southeast Asia and the Pacific continue to expand, impacting the lives of people, communities and countries

Underpinned by trafficking of chemicals and the synthetic drugs trade, illicit economies in the Golden Triangle continue to grow, impacting the stability of the Mekong region and Asia Pacific. While drug supply expands, there is limited availability of evidence-based drug prevention and treatment programmes for those who struggle with drug use. The illicit trade in wildlife and timber is devastating delicate ecosystems, and people seeking economic security sometimes end up as victims of migrant smugglers or human traffickers. Collectively, organized crime groups in Southeast Asia alone are estimated to generate at least US\$ 130 billion yearly. The continued risk of terrorism also remains significant. The region requires support that is proportionate to achieve safety and prosperity.

UNODC's mission is to contribute to peace and security, human rights and development by making the world safer from drugs, crime, corruption and terrorism. The UNODC Regional Programme for Southeast Asia and the Pacific 2022-2026 reflects this mission, working with governments, civil society and the private sector partners to design and implement intelligent solutions that build social resilience and protect vulnerable communities.



## Drugs

### Responding to the production, trafficking and non-medical use of drugs

Southeast Asia and the Pacific continue to experience expansion of drug production, trafficking and use. Meanwhile, access to evidence-based drug treatment remains limited for people who use drugs, compounded with stigma and discrimination they experience. Farming of opium continues in rural areas with limited accessibility to markets and alternative livelihood options.

#### Our approach

- Promote balanced drug policies and legislation, and support adoption and implementation
- Help address trafficking of precursor chemicals to prevent manufacturing of synthetic drugs
- Build capacity to address illicit drug production and trafficking
- Increase availability of evidence-based drug and HIV/AIDS prevention, treatment, care, recovery and social integration
- Support people engaged in illicit drug production—such as opium farmers—transition to licit livelihood options

#### Global and Regional Frameworks

The three international drug control conventions of 1961, 1971 and 1988

The outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem of 2016

Mekong Memorandum of Understanding on Drug Control (Mekong MOU)

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Drug Matters (AMMD)

ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Drug Matters (ASOD)

Pacific Islands Forum and Boe Declaration on Regional Security

Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies, Asia and the Pacific (HONLAP)



Credit: Ploy Phutpheng

## Organized Crime

### Preventing and responding to transnational organized crime and trafficking

Organized crime groups make enormous profits through illicit trafficking, including trafficking of vulnerable people. Their activities are facilitated by the use of cyberspace and a well-connected financial system that allows for the proceeds of crime to be laundered.

#### Our approach

- Support development and adaptation of dedicated policies and legislation to address transnational organized crime
- Build capacities of border management officials to better prevent and interdict illicit trafficking
- Support government, private sector and civil society partners to prevent and implement responses to migrant smuggling and human trafficking
- Help design and implement effective responses to crimes that affect the environment, money laundering and illicit financial flows, and cybercrime

#### Global and Regional Frameworks

The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three Protocols (the Trafficking in Persons Protocol, the Smuggling of Migrants Protocol and the Firearms Protocol)

The three international drug control conventions of 1961, 1971 and 1988

ASEAN Ministerial Meeting on Transnational Crime (AMMTC)

Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC)

ASEAN Convention Against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children

ASEAN Plan of Action in Combating Transnational Crime (2016-2025)

The Bali Process

Pacific Islands Forum and Boe Declaration on Regional Security

Asia / Pacific Group On Money Laundering (APG)



## Corruption and Economic Crimes

### Preventing and addressing corruption and economic crime

Corruption is a key enabler of transnational organized crime, and it permeates many aspects of public life in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. Corruption undermines the provisions of key public services and exacerbates a sense of inequality, impacting stability and prosperity of the region.

#### Our approach

- Promote transparency, ethics and integrity within public institutions
- Empower non-state actors to play a role in anti-corruption
- Build capacity of key institutions to detect, investigate, adjudicate and prosecute corruption cases
- Help address corruption as an enabler of other types of crimes, including transnational organized crime

#### Global and Regional Frameworks

The United Nations Convention against Corruption

The political declaration adopted at the special session of the General Assembly against corruption in June 2021

The Southeast Asia Parties Against Corruption (SEA-PAC)

Teieniwa Vision (Pacific Unity Against Corruption)



## Terrorism Prevention

### Preventing and countering terrorism, including financing and the spread of violent extremism

Southeast Asia and the Pacific have been afflicted by the scourge of violence by terrorist and violent extremist groups. These threats intersect with ongoing conflicts and insurgencies, with some countries undergoing post-conflict transitional processes. Links between groups within the region pose heightened challenges as tactics, materials, and other forms of support can be easily exchanged.

#### Our approach

- Support the development and implementation of domestic legislation against terrorism
- Build capacity of government agencies and non-government actors to respond terrorism and terrorism financing cases
- Support whole-of-society approach to prevention of violent extremism and terrorism

#### Global and Regional Frameworks

UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy

The 19 international legal instruments against terrorism

UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions relating to terrorism and violent extremism

Financial Action Task Force Recommendations

ASEAN Convention on Counter-Terrorism

Pacific Islands Forum and Boe Declaration on Regional Security



## Criminal Justice

### Fair, effective, accountable criminal justice systems

Long-term and community-based crime prevention initiatives remain limited. Criminal justice systems need to better respond to gender-based violence and violence against children. Detention facilities in Asia Pacific are highly overcrowded, raising concerns regarding the treatment of detainees. There is a need to improve access to justice, increase the use of non-custodial measures, and enhance regional and international cooperation in criminal matters.

#### Our Approach

- Support the design and implementation of knowledge-based, community-based and inclusive crime prevention
- Build capacities to prevent and respond to violence against women and children
- Improve people's access to justice
- Promote women's leadership in criminal justice systems
- Support international cooperation in criminal matters
- Help improve prison management

#### Global and Regional Frameworks

United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice

The 2021 Kyoto Declaration adopted at the Fourteenth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

ASEAN Law Ministers' Meeting (ALAWMM) and ASEAN Senior Law Officials Meeting (ASLOM)

Pacific Islands Forum and Boe Declaration on Regional Security

# Crisis Response

## Addressing crime and security threats in emergency, fragility and transition

The COVID-19 pandemic has not only shown the resilience of illicit activities, but also the importance of preparedness and early response measures. The same can be said about other crises faced by the region, including natural disasters, which are only expected to increase as a result of climate change and political crises.

### Our Approach

- Support governments to have strategies in place to prepare for, and proactively address crises
- Help ensure crime and security risks are understood and minimized in emergency contexts



## How we deliver

### Our services

- Data and intelligence development, research, assessments, and trend analysis
- Policy formulation and improvement, and processes for adoption
- Capacity building, including provision of tools and training
- Bringing together regional and international partners for enhanced cooperation





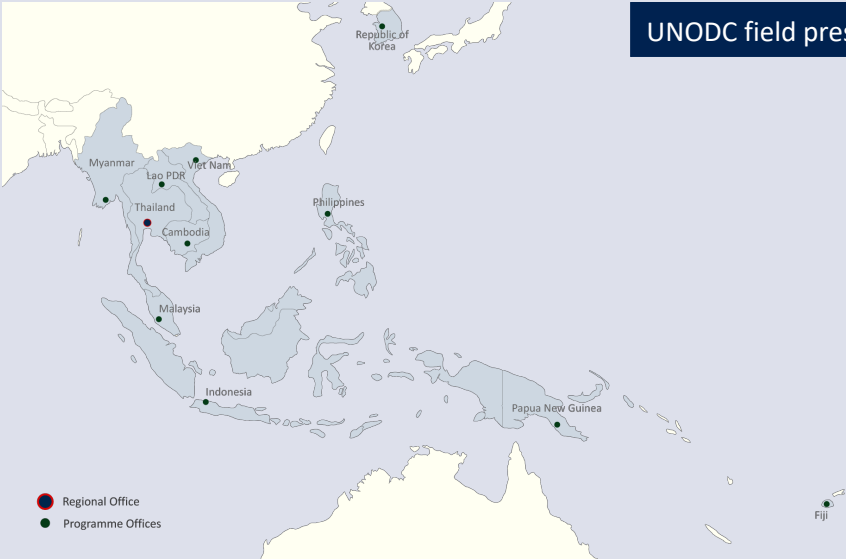
# Snapshot of UNODC in Southeast Asia and the Pacific (first generation Regional Programme 2014-2021)

Results in **37** countries and territories in Asia Pacific

Delivered **2,600** capacity building activities to help address the drug problem, transnational organized crime and illicit trafficking, corruption, terrorism

Trained **108,100** people from government, civil society academia and private sector organizations, and **6,000** people mentored

Assisted over **4,000** opium farming families in Lao PDR and Myanmar to move to sustainable economic alternatives and protect forests



UNODC field presence



# UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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