



UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime

Working Group E.2

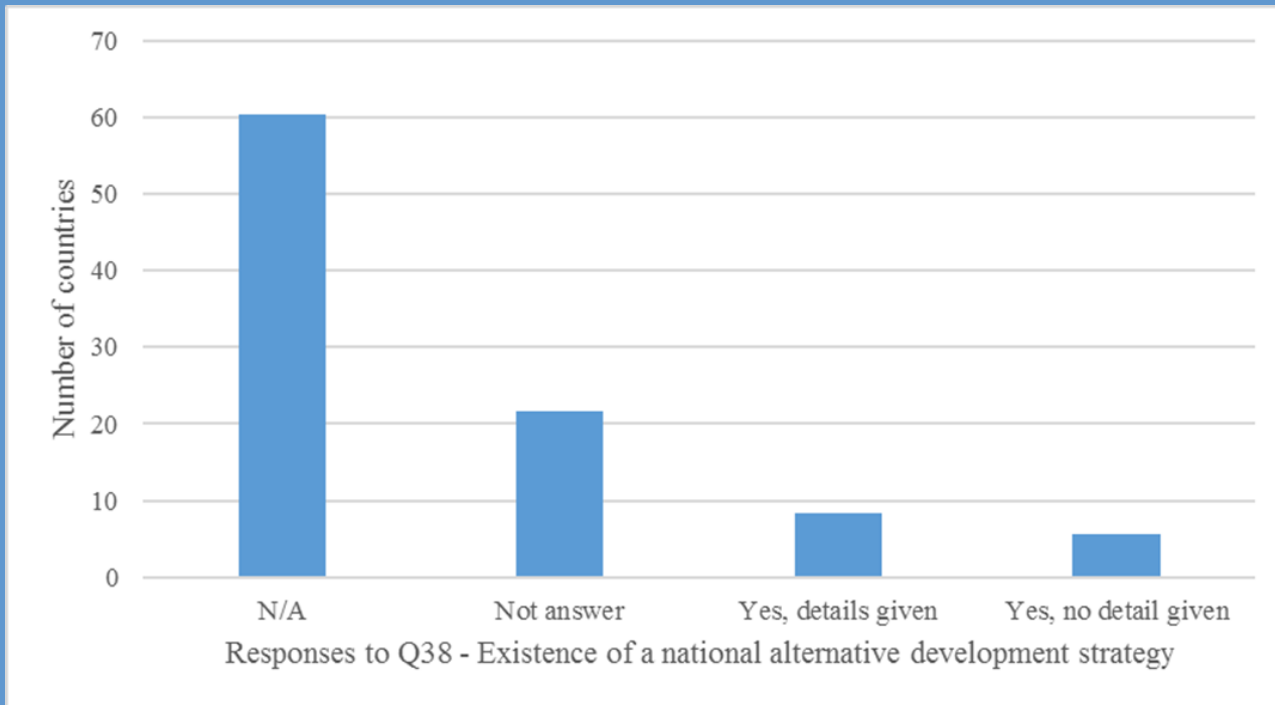
**Alternative Development and factors contributing to
illicit crop cultivation**



Challenges and strengths of data collected in the ARQ

Information is collected on national Alternative Development (AD) strategies and implementing entities:

- Concerns a limited number of countries, AD understood differently
- Descriptive, does not change quickly/annually





Challenges and strengths of data collected in the ARQ

Information is requested on the annual budget allocated at national/state/provincial level and if MS assist other countries with AD

- Distinguish between national donors/budget and international donors on AD
- On average 3-5 countries give budget figures
- More information on the budget for AD should be available from other sources

Questions are included on number of households living in illicit cultivation areas, number of households for which this is a major source of income and details on the number of households benefitting from AD:

- Limited data availability
- Unclear what is measured and how. Comparability?



Challenges and strengths of data collected in the ARQ

Several questions about aspects of design, planning and implementation of AD programmes, participatory approach, gender actions, market access for AD products, the role of the private sector and environmental conservation:

- Descriptive, no indication or evidence on what is happening on the ground.
- No link with possible impact or success, comparability?

Two questions ask about the impact of AD (Q47: to what extent has illicit cultivation been reduced, Q55: checklist to confirm if the impact of AD programmes on the MDGs has been assessed):

- No evidence that impact on cultivation can be attributed to AD
- Compliance reporting
- Data availability? Capacity to measure?



Guide for discussion

For the data/information that will be discussed, focus should be on:

- ± improvements (definitions, classifications, re-organisation of questions, etc.)
- + data/questions to add
- data/questions to drop

When relevant, a distinction between core and non core data could be made:

- CORE: Data that are key to understand trends and patterns of the drug problem, they may change at fast pace (on a yearly basis) and/or are available for the majority of countries
- NON-CORE: Data usually not subject to rapid fluctuations, requiring more in depth/detailed questions and/or are available in a limited number of countries



Possible issues to be considered by the experts for modifications and improvements

- AD is long-term, limited changes between reporting years
- Limited number of countries concerned
- Factors driving illicit cultivation are very specific for each household or community. The impact of AD is measured at regional/local levels. What national level reporting is useful and feasible?
- Can there be comparability between what countries report? What can be measured? For which purpose?
- Data availability? Capacity of countries to monitor, measure and report?



Possible issues to be considered

What is useful and feasible to monitor and to include as core questions?

- Annual budget for AD. Include national and international donors?
- Report on ongoing projects: research and impact assessment of AD, share/send the reports?

Questions to improve. Core or non-core?

- Number of households living in illicit crop cultivation areas or depending on it. What can be measured? What is useful to measure (not only looking at cultivation but also at employment created by the drug economy)?
- Number of households (not) benefitting from alternative development. What is or can be measured? Useful to measure?

Which topics or issues should be in a non-core, in-depth questionnaire? Link to drivers of illicit cultivation and impact assessment? Topics from Political Declaration and UNGASS Outcome Document? SDGs?