UNODC Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme

Philippines National Workshop
Quezon City, 9 December 2009

Summary Report

I. Background

UNODC launched the Global Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends (SMART) Programme in September 2008. The Programme seeks to enhance the capacity of Member States and authorities in priority regions, to generate, manage, analyse and report synthetic drug information, and to apply this scientific knowledge to design policies and programmes. The programme is being implemented in a gradual phased manner, with East Asia being the first focus priority region. The initial phase of the Global SMART Programme has been supported by Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand and Thailand.

The overarching objective of the programme is to support the Member States to make effective evidence-based decisions, for designing responses to counter the problem of synthetic drugs. The programme intends to support this, through three primary step related to information on synthetic drugs:

- Information is generated and managed by the drug control agencies/officials of affiliated ministries/departments/organizations
- Information is analysed and reported through various reports/forums
- Information is increasingly used for the development of policy and strategic interventions.

In July 2009, the programme brought together stakeholders from the partner countries in the region for a Regional Workshop. This three-day workshop was held from 29-31 July in Bangkok, Thailand, to discuss and review various situational and programmatic aspects of the implementation of the SMART programme in East and South-East Asia. The workshop followed a participatory approach and consisted of presentations and discussions on key themes, trainings and review sessions, as well as bilateral dialogues and consultations with the various delegations.
The gaps and needs identified during the various sessions, and the recommendations made by the delegations during the workshop proceedings were used to identify the specific needs for each of the partner countries. The recommendations\(^1\) were consolidated and converted into actionable immediate next steps. The following areas were highlighted as requiring immediate focus:

- Strengthening of information sharing at the regional level
- Providing continued situational analysis on ATS trends and patterns
- Facilitating online information availability
- Reinvigorating inter-sectoral cooperation and information sharing at the national level
- Providing training and capacity-building adapted to the individual country needs, and
- Supporting information generation through assistance to design/formulate/conduct studies and surveys.

In order to take forward these recommendations through specific activities for each country, the SMART programme held workshops in priority countries. The first workshop, organised in collaboration with the Philippines Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) was held in Quezon City, Philippines, on 9 December 2009.

II. Objectives

The objectives and expected outcomes of the workshop were, to:

- Bring together on one platform, representatives of the various drug law enforcement, health and treatment agencies and forensic/laboratory/scientific personnel
- Inform and update participants on the progress of the Global SMART Programme
- Share information on the latest patterns and trends of synthetic drugs, and
- Identify the needs at the national level and chart-out priorities for support under the programme.

\(^1\) The complete report of the Regional Workshop can be accessed at: (http://www.unodc.org/documents/eastasiaandpacific/2009/07/Final_Regional_Workshop_Report.pdf)
II. Participants

The workshop was attended by 52 participants from various agencies and departments. The participating agencies were, the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB), Bureau of Corrections Therapeutic Community Center, Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP), Department of Health (DOH), East Avenue Medical Center Detoxification Unit, Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital, National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Forensic Laboratory, National Center for Mental Health (NCMH), National Poison Control Center, Philippine General Hospital (PGH), Philippine Association of Drug Rehabilitation and Crisis Intervention Agencies, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA), Philippine National Police (PNP) Crime Laboratory, Tondo Medical Hospital Detoxification Unit, local anti-drug abuse councils, health units, and law enforcement agencies, and UNODCC. The complete list of participants is annexed at the end of this report.

III. Proceedings

The meeting commenced with welcome remarks from the Executive Director of the Dangerous Drugs Board, Undersecretary Mr. Edgar C. Galvante. Mr. Galvante pointed out that in order to solve the drug problem, a comprehensive understanding of all its facets is needed. He said that reviewing trends of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS) use helps in the creation of better and effective policies. He cited the relevance of the UNODC Global SMART Programme in this regard and thanked UNODC for hosting the Philippines national meeting on the SMART Programme.

After the welcome remarks, Ms. Soe Yee Saing, Programme Management Officer, UNODC Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific (RCEAP), gave an overview of the UNODC programmes and activities in the region. Ms. Saing highlighted the main focus areas of UNODC in the region as:

- Promoting convention adherence
- Knowledge and analysis
- Technical capacity building; and
- Enhancing regional cooperation
Highlighting the challenges that need to be addressed through joint action, the points that Ms. Saing focused on included: implications of infrastructure and economic development; money laundering (financing of terrorism); lack of transnational organized justice system; synthetic drugs; inadequate prevention services; provision of treatment services which are not in line with best practices; IDU-driven HIV; and the economic crisis. Ms. Saing further highlighted UNODC partnerships with forums such as the ASEAN, including the MOU on Drug Control Matters (1995), ACCOR Plan of Action (2000), ASEAN-UNODC Memorandum of Agreement on Drug Control and Crime Prevention Cooperation (2003). Ms. Saing concluded by thanking the Dangerous Drugs Board for its support to UNODC activities.

Following the overview of UNODC’s work and comments by Ms. Saing, Ms. Deepika Naruka, Regional Programme Coordinator (East Asia) for the Global SMART Programme, welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of improving the national data collection to meet the demands and challenges associated with synthetic drugs. Ms. Naruka presented a brief global and regional scenario of the patterns and trends of amphetamine-type stimulants. The key points of the presentation included that: ATS abuse is a worldwide problem, but significant differences exist in various regions; challenges posed by ATS drugs (high profits- low risks, multiple modes of production, simplicity of supply chain, limited knowledge, difficulties of measurement and ATS estimation challenges). Ms. Naruka presented a number of case studies from the region and highlighted the progress made by the Global SMART Programme. Stressing on the need for better information and data on the issue, the second part of her presentation highlighted the various mechanisms under the SMART programme.

Following these presentations from UNODC, Ms. Corazon Mamigo, from the Dangerous Drugs Board gave a presentation on the ATS situation in the Philippines, and stressed on the government efforts in combating the drug problem. Ms. Mamigo also presented the results of a household survey on the nature and extent of drug abuse in the Philippines, conducted by the Dangerous Drugs Board in collaboration with the Department of Interior and Local Government, in 2008. Mr. Artemio Baculi, Chief, Operation and Management Division of the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency also delivered a similar report focusing on the law enforcement activities and efforts. A forensic data presentation by Mr. Alejandro C. De Guzman, Training Officer/Forensic Chemist of the PNP Crime laboratory, followed next. The presentation generated a valuable discussion on the relationship, coordination, and cooperation among the three forensic laboratories present in the meeting, the PDEA laboratory, National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) Laboratory and the Philippines National Police (PNP) Crime Laboratory.
The post-lunch session of the proceedings started with a presentation on one of the main SMART data collation mechanism - the Drug Abuse Information Network for Asia and the Pacific (DAINAP). Mr. Tun Nay Soe, Information and Database Systems Specialist, presented detailed information on the DAINAP system. He talked about the Philippines submissions to DAINAP and put forward some of the issues which needed to be strengthened. Mr. Soe’s presentation focused on the following issues: drug production facilities – lack of indication of the nature of the laboratory (kitchen lab, industrial lab) as a limiting point for determining the extent of production; precursor information; retail price of illegal drugs; data on persons arrested – need for breakdown in terms of the drugs used or sold are not provided and information by gender; and drug abuse data submission aspects such as drug use among the general populace, drug use among students, etc.

Mr. Soe pointed out that there existed no major problem regarding the drug treatment data submissions of the Philippines. However, the Philippines data submissions needed to be improved in some aspects such as the HIV/IDU related information, drug-related mortality and the scientific analysis and network and specialized studies data submissions, in which more detailed information could be provided. In terms of the quality of data, he pointed out that data submitted were more complete and better explained than in the past.

A mapping exercise was then carried out within the delegations of each agency, wherein the main data sharing mechanisms - process, type of information and the frequency of information sharing, within the agency/department was mapped. This session was useful to get a detailed idea of the various data sharing mechanisms that existed among the relevant departments.

A question and answer (Q and A) sessions followed. Some of the points put forward during the Q and A session included, points raised by the Dangerous Drugs Board Executive Director, Undersecretary Mr. Galvante, on clarifications related to the UNODC World Drug Report. Mr. Galvante highlighted concerns related to ranking of Philippines as one of the major ATS abusing country. On this issue, he stressed the importance of ranking based on equal parameters only. He agreed that the 2009 report on the Patterns and Trends of Amphetamine-Type Stimulants and Other Drugs, put together under the SMART programme provided a useful consolidation of information without a ranking-based system. Ms. Virginia P. Balmes, Chief, DDB Policy Studies, Research and Statistics Division, also clarified the difficulties associated with submission of more detailed data in DAINAP. On the issue of information on drug use among the general
Population, she put forward that the data was based on surveys which had to undergo a long and detailed process of several expert studies and approval processes.

Subsequent to the Q and A session, the next part of the workshop focused on detailed discussions related to the immediate priorities for Philippines. During this session participants shared their views on the issue-based as well as agency-based needs. In order to facilitate this session, participants were divided into three groups – law enforcement, health and treatment, and forensics and laboratory groups. Interactive discussions were held within each one of these three groups. The groups discussed the issues for focus as immediate priorities. After the discussions, a rapporteur from each of the groups presented the key points of the discussions to the whole plenary. These points were then grouped together and the final focus areas were put forward.

In general, the concerns and points for improvement revolved around the need for comprehensive capability-building on data analysis and management, sufficient ICT trainings for all practitioners and agents involved in data reporting, and constant upgrading of facilities and exposure to the most recent techniques on forensic processes intended for examination of synthetic drugs.

IV. Identified priority needs

The participants were asked to prioritize the immediate needs for the first four-six months of 2010. These identified needs were as follows:

Law enforcement

- Training on link analysis (back tracking)
- Training on statistical analysis

Representatives from the country’s law enforcement agencies which handle seizures etc. related to drug manufacturing, trade and abuse, focused on the need for additional trainings to be organized in support of their efforts in enhancing capabilities for reporting. Link Analysis for backtracking and statistical analysis for effective data management have been named as the most necessary subjects for trainings and capability enhancement. Funds for upgradation of software for the enhancement of the Integrated Drug Abuse Data and Information Network (IDADIN) and processing of data were also listed.
Forensics

- Trainings on:
  - Drug profiling
  - Toxicity testing
  - Drug identification/ essential chemicals/ precursors
  - Clandestine lab processing
- Test kits for the determination of:
  - Ketamine
  - Benzylpiperazine/ Mimic ecstasy
  - Nalbuphine
  - Reference standards for ATS
  - IT trainings
  - Assistance for laboratory equipment

Agencies which run forensic laboratories identified further trainings and acquisition of other equipments as points for improvement of their ATS data analysis and management. It was discussed that trainings on drug profiling, toxicity tests, identification of drugs and their controlled precursors and essential chemicals, and assessment of clandestine laboratories would allow them to analyze and provide more comprehensive data on ATS production and manufacturing in the country. Obtaining additional laboratory equipment and test kits for individual screening of Ketamine, N-benzylpiperazine (BZP), mimic ecstasy and Nalbuphine would likewise give laboratories the edge in studying the nature of abuse of synthetic drugs. Development of reference standards and trainings for data analysis were likewise seen as means to ensure improvement of statistics evaluation and reporting.

Health and Treatment

- ICT Training for IDADIN network members
- Database management administration
- MYSQL and other languages
- Establishment of ICT Support groups
- Capacity building training (for medical doctors, staff involved in data collection), for proper diagnosis of patients with drug problems
- Formulation of standard manuals for procedures on the treatment of drug patients
- Accuracy of the data (cases in the hospital supported by toxicology analysis)
• Literacy programme for drug dependent clients
• Create programmes to address problems with unemployment and education as reflected by the statistics (profile of drug users)
• Livelihood training for drug patients.

Participants from drug treatment and rehabilitation facilities mentioned that capability enhancement, trainings and encouraging research among its practitioners are needed to advance their capability in analyzing trends in the abuse of synthetic drugs. For one, arrangements for more ICT trainings for practitioners in data analysis be made alongside the establishment of a technical support group for IDADIN members to promote comprehensive data reporting and effective management. The importance of capacity building, in general, to update and reprise practitioners on the current best practices in treatment and rehabilitation, was cited. The need to standardize the procedures for treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare was mentioned, as was the need to continue developing researches on the health effects of ATS and general synthetic drug abuse among the youth.

After the summarization of the proceedings, the workshop concluded with an agreement on the time-line for support under the SMART programme to be shared with the participants, by January 2010.
UNODC Global SMART
(Synthetics Monitoring: Analyses, Reporting and Trends)
Programme

Philippines’ National Meeting

Hosted by:
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Global SMART Programme
in collaboration with
the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB)

Venue: Quezon City Sports Club, Inc.
E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Quezon City
Date: December 9, 2009
Time: 9:00 A.M.—5:00 P.M.

Mr./Ms.: ______________________________________
( This serves as an invitation)
**Objectives of the Meeting:**

1. Orient the attendees on UNODC SMART Programme;
2. Update on the recent regional trends in Amphetamine-type Stimulants (ATS);
3. Identify future needs on the following:
   - 3.1 National ATS drug data collection
   - 3.2 Forensic drug data information activities in the Philippines

**Participating Agencies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bureau of Corrections Therapeutic Community Center, NBP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bureau of Jail Management and Penology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East Avenue Medical Center Detoxification Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Bureau of Investigation Forensic Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Center for Mental Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Poison Control Center, Philippine General Hospital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippine Association of Drug Rehabilitation and Crisis Intervention Agencies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PNP Crime Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tondo Medical Hospital Detoxification Unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local anti-drug abuse councils, health units, law enforcement agencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**AGENDA**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-9:30am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-9:45</td>
<td>Welcome Remarks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45-10:00</td>
<td>Message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00-10:15</td>
<td>Photo Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:15-10:45</td>
<td>Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:45-11:15</td>
<td>Overview of the Global SMART Programme</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15-11:30</td>
<td>Regional ATS Trends with a focus on Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30-12:30pm</td>
<td>ATS Situation in the Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-2:00</td>
<td>SMART Data Sharing Mechanisms— DAINAP &amp; Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00-2:20</td>
<td>Data Sharing Mechanisms in the Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:20-2:40</td>
<td>Tea Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:40-4:30</td>
<td>Open Forum : Discussion on the Immediate Priorities for Philippines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30-5:00</td>
<td>Summarizing the proceedings and finalizing time-line for next six months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ANNEX 2. List of Participants

Bureau of Corrections (BUCOR)
Mr. Henry Bagaoisan, Program Manager
Mr. Wilfredo Bayona, Inspector

Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP)
Mr. Mark Sylvester C. Tan, Safekeeping Management
Mr. Lito S. Lam-osen, Safekeeping Management

Cavite City Drug Abuse Response & Rehab. Center Total Outreach Environment
Mr. Maricel F. Ocampo, Psychologist I
Ms. Emma P. Miranda, Admin. Clerk

Department of Health
Ms. Elsa M. Tiomico, Social Worker I
Ms. Annalita S. Betero, Chemist I
Mr. Jovita V. Aragona, Information Technology Officer III
Mr. Robert S. Manuel, Information Technology Officer III

Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB)
Mr. Edgar C. Galvante, Executive Director
Ms. Belen V. Matibag, Deputy Executive Director for Operations
Ms. Virginia P. Balmes, Chief, Policy Studies, Research & Statistics Division
Ms. Virginia Palisoc, Asst. Chief, Policy Studies, Research & Statistics Division
Ms. Rebecca F. Arambulo, Project Evaluation Officer III
Ms. Marissa F. Satira, Statistician II
Ms. Joan Marie Sison, Administrative Asst. IV
Mr. Samson Tabije, Administrative Aide III
Mr. John Arvin Capiral, Informational Techno. Asst.
Ms. Corazon A. Ramarama, Psychologist II
Mr. Gerry M. De Leon, Assistant Statistician
Mr. Fidel Castro, DONO IV
Ms. Glorie Lou Pasa, PIO/Administrative Aide IV
Ms. Ella Marie Dimaculangan, PIO
Ms. Cathryn D. Dizon, Sociologist I
Mr. Orlando Latorena, Administrative Officer IV
Mr. Julius M. Ferriols, Sociologist II
Ms. Corazon P. Mamigo, Statisticain III
Ms. Gina B. Pecson, Statistician I
Mr. Lourdes S. Rubio, Administrative Asst. II
Ms. Marilou R. Salvador, Statistician I

East Avenue medical Center
Dr. Visitacion P. Antonio, Medical Specialist II
Dr. Fernando M. Quitalig Jr., M.O. III

Makati Anti-Drug Abuse Council
Ms. Orlina M. Mendoza, Social Worker
Ms. Marites D. Cadao, Psychologist

Marikina – Anti drug Abuse Council
Mr. Alfredo P. Castro Jr., Assistant Center Director
Mr. Elpidia N. Reyes, Clerk

National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
Ms. Marcela Bonifacio, Evidence Custodian
Ms. Felicisma M. Francisco, forensic Chemist

National Center for Mental health (NCMH)
Mrs. Lourdes Palapal, Administrative Officer V
Mr. Rommel M. Rodriguez, Information Technology Administrator
Mr. Clodualdo Maga-an, Jr, Administrative Aide I/HOMIS-IT

Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency
Mr. Artemio Baculi Jr., Chief, Operations Management Division, POS
Ms. Ivy Joy Tolentino, Chief, Research & Analysis Division
Mr. Alejandro C. De Guzman, Training Officer
Mr. Jayson C. Ermina, FOCO
Ms. Agnes D. Mandap, Acting Asst. Dir., Compliance Service
Ms. Frances Anne Q. Matatquin, Deputy Director, Laboratory Service
Mrs. Belen N. Banog, Chemist V/OIC Laboratory Service

Quezon City – Anti Drug Abuse Council
Ms. Mylane T. Francisco, Social Worker
Ms. Shyne T. Bonavente, Psychologist

Tondo Medical Center
Ms. Erlinda G. Lura, Surveillance Officer, HEPO Designate

UNODC
Ms. Soe Yee Saing, Programme Management Officer, Regional Centre Bangkok
Ms. Deepika Naruka, Regional Programme Coordinator (East Asia), Global SMART
Mr. Tun Nae Soe, Database and Information Systems Specialist, Global SMART
The Global SMART Programme is managed by the Laboratory and Scientific Section of the Division for Policy and Analysis and Public Affairs.

Contact details:
Global SMART Programme (East Asia)
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Regional Centre for East Asia and the Pacific
UN Building, 3rd Floor, Block B
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Website: www.apaic.org
www.unodc.org/eastasiaandpacific

Global SMART Programme (Headquarters)
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Vienna International Centre
P.O. Box 500
A-1400 Vienna, Austria
Website: www.unodc.org/unodc/en/scientists/
laboratory-and-forensic-science-services.html

UNODC would like to specifically recognize the following funding partners for their contribution to the Global SMART Programme.

Australia  Japan  New Zealand  Republic of Korea  Thailand