

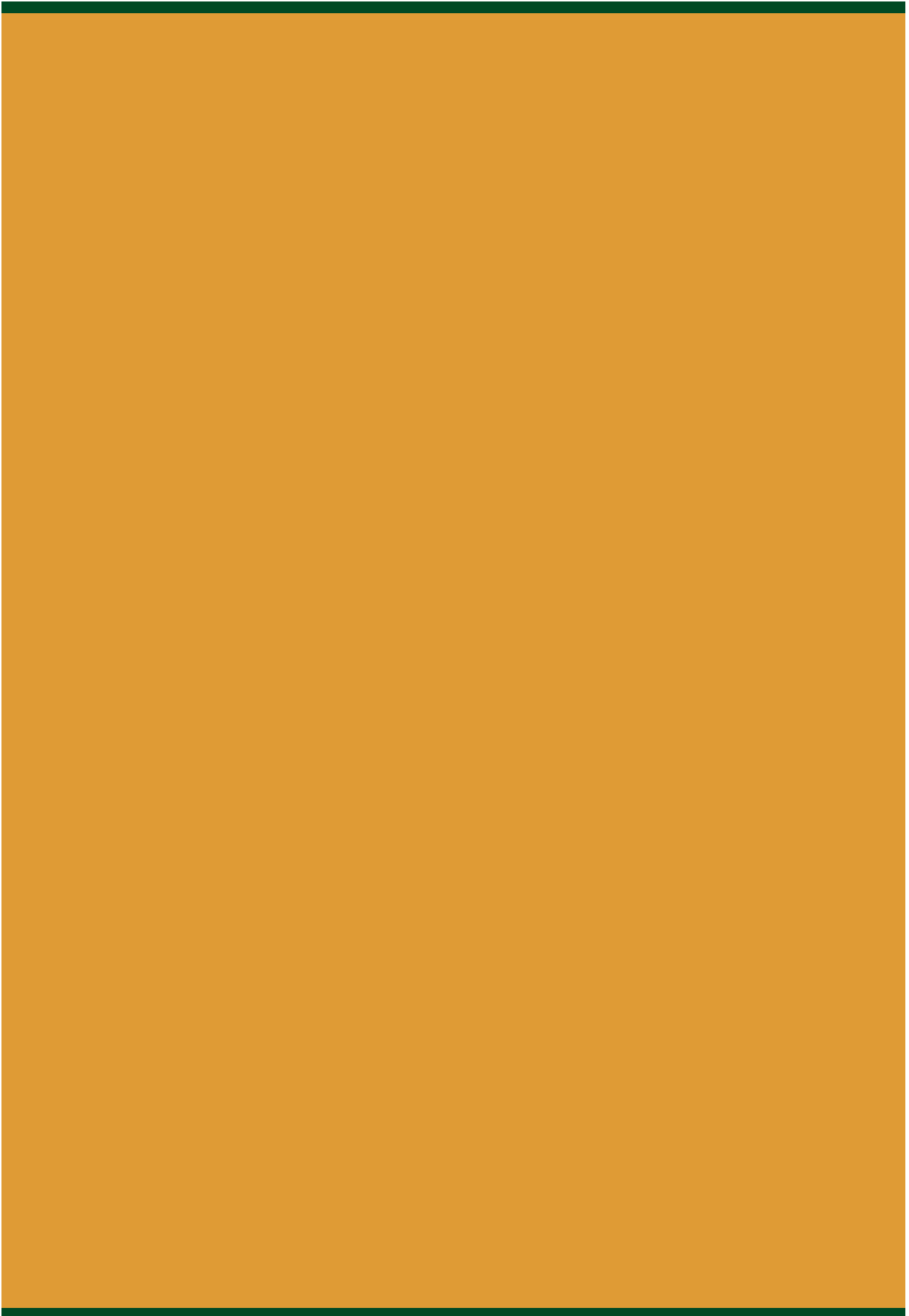
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About NIOC Pakistan

National Initiative against Organized Crime (NIOC), in collaboration with the Global Initiative Resilience Fund is the first-ever initiative in Pakistan launched by a group of committed professionals and experts with law enforcement, media and other public service backgrounds. NIOC aims to build community resilience and influence public policy to combat organized crime. Initially launched as a pilot project for six months with effect from November 1, 2019, it aims to jump start not only the discussion around transnational organized crime in Pakistan, but also to facilitate the government work. With a complex governance structure having multiple layers of stakeholders, the criminal justice system and law enforcement apparatus require better coordination and capacity building. NIOC will try to identify the gaps and suggest improvements in the system.



Contents



ADVISORY BOARD

Tariq Parvez

President Advisory Board, NIOC:
Former Director General Federal
Investigation Agency

Fiaz Khan Toru

Member NIOC AB:
Former Inspector General of Police

Zahid Hussain

Member NIOC AB:
Eminent journalist particularly
specializing in countering terrorism

Fasi Zaka

Member NIOC AB:
Communications expert. To steer the
advocacy campaign.

Zubair Habib

**Chairman CPLC Karachi, Member
NIOC AB:**
For community outreach.



NIOC DIRECTORATE

Tariq Khosa

Director

Muhammad Amir Rana

Secretary

Muhammad Ali Nekokara

Deputy Director

Hassan Sardar

Admin & Finance Manager

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Advisory Board of NIOC Pakistan

The second meeting of the Advisory Board Members of the National Initiative against Organized Crime (NIOC) Pakistan was held on December 05, 2019, at Islamabad. Mr. Tariq Parvez chaired the meeting. Mr. Tariq Khosa Director NIOC briefed the board members about the first meeting held on November 09, 2019 and recapped the discussion points of the meeting of the Stakeholders' Roundtable held on November 22, 2019. He briefly discussed the following four broad categories of organized crimes to be addressed under the pilot project:

- Terror Financing
- Drug Trafficking
- Human Trafficking
- Cyber Crimes

Director Khosa emphasized that, under this initiative, NIOC will seek cooperation of the state institutions on the determined thematic areas while maintaining its independent position. He opined that NIOC would identify the gaps in policies issued by the government in the core areas of its objectives and would make recommendations in support of government policies through research, policy briefs and action plans. He apprised the board that all of these points had already been discussed with Dr. Moeed Yousuf, Head of the Strategic Policy Planning Unit of National Security Division and a meeting either in Lahore or in Islamabad would be planned during December 2019.



Terror Financing:

NACTA has nominated DIG Shahzada Sultan as a focal person for coordination with NIOC. He will be asked to prepare a paper on terror financing in which issues like legal mandate, involved stakeholders, FATF conditions would be included along with our present standing in this regard. A similar kind of paper had been produced by Narcotics Control Division (NCD) which has been shared with NIOC.

NACTA will produce the said document, after which NIOC will share its observations on it and will produce a policy brief for the government. Director Khosa requested NIOC members that they should share their questions on the issue related to terror financing so NACTA can address these questions in the proposed paper. It was also decided that NIOC will also plan a meeting with Mr. Hammad Azhar, Federal State Minister for Economic Affairs, in January 2020 on this issue.

Drug Trafficking

NIOC, in collaboration with MNC produced a paper on drug trafficking. Mr. Kashif Noon, a consultant, who had been recently added in the NIOC team as strategist and lead researcher, improved that analysis paper. That paper had been shared with the members as well. This paper would be uploaded on the NIOC's website. NIOC will reach out to the MNC to deal with issues related to narcotics for Drug Policy Alliance.

President AB Tariq Parvez stressed that NIOC should identify the weakness in the narcotics policy issued by the NCD and should also work in key areas to be identified by NCD and ANF.

Member AB Mr Zubair Habib would organize an awareness campaign on drug menace. He said that he would supervise a pilot survey in Karachi on drug usage where young people in the age bracket of 16 to 25 would answer a questionnaire anonymously to gauge the drug usage patterns amongst the youth.

Human trafficking

NIOC is in coordination with FIA on the mapping of this issue. NIOC will ask DG FIA to nominate an officer for coordination on human trafficking and cybercrime issues.

DG National Police Bureau Syed Ejaz Hussain had also offered his institution's cooperation for NIOC.

Decisions:

The following decisions were taken by the Board Members:

- Issuance of an analysis paper on terror financing in December/January 2019
- Issuance of analysis paper on anti-narcotics in December 2019
- NIOC will sign a Letter of Engagement with Kashif Noon as a strategist and lead researcher in the NIOC team with clear TORs
- The first Newsletter for November 2019 would cover the brief of activities carried out during the month
- Policy brief on narcotics control prepared by Mr. Kashif Noon would be uploaded on the NIOC website once it is operational
- PIPS has made a website which is under trial stages, and it will be appropriately launched soon
- Second Stakeholders' Consultation Meeting would be conducted during January, 2020
- Eventual aim of NIOC is to propose a national strategy against organized crime with a focus on the four categories already identified

Report

First monthly report of NIOC activities during November 2019 had been sent to the Manager Global Initiative Resilience Fund in Vienna.

Attendance:

The following attended the board meeting:

1. Mr. Tariq Parvez, President AB
2. Mr. Fiaz Khan Toru, Member AB
3. Mr. Zahid Hussain, Member AB
4. Mr. Zubair Habib, Member AB
5. Mr Tariq Khosa, Director NIOC
6. Mr. Kashif Noon, Consultant
7. Mr. Shozab Askari ,Project Coordinator, PIPS
8. Mr. Hassan Sardar, Manager Admin & Finance

Director NIOC participates in Dubai Moot

Director NIOC Tariq Khosa had the honor to represent NIOC Pakistan at a workshop in Dubai on 8-11 December 2019 that was conducted by the National Defense University Washington DC on "Countering Illicit Networks in the Levant and Gulf."

A Paper on Drug Trafficking in Pakistan was presented on behalf of NIOC along with power point presentation. Mr Kashif Noon had worked on the paper and the presentation.

Ms Katherine Bauer, who served in the US Treasury Department for ten years, made a presentation of great relevance in the context of FATF.

Mr Tariq Khosa is in discussions with NESAs and NDUs USA to organize a 2-day workshop in Islamabad from NIOC platform on Organized Crime in March 2020. He will take it up as an agenda item in the next board meeting.

Interdiction Efforts Around the World

Tracking and Disrupting Financial Networks

Katherine Bauer

Anti-Money Laundering

- Roots in counter-narcotics
 - 1988 Vienna Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances
 - Introduced concepts of criminalization of laundering of drug proceeds and strengthened legal powers for confiscation of criminal proceeds
 - Criminal offense to transfer or convert property for the purpose of concealing or disguising its illicit origins
 - Not required to prove guilt of predicate crime to seize assets
 - 2000 Palermo Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime
 - Expands predicate crimes and international cooperation; mandates est FIU

AML/CFT Framework

- (i) public sector
- (ii) private sector
- (iii) bridging mechanism
- (iv) international cooperation

Financial Action Task Force



- International standard-setter for Anti-Money Laundering and Combatting the Financing of Terrorism (AML/CFT)
- Established in 1989 “in order to deprive the cartels of the proceeds of drug trafficking.”
 - Standards derived from international treaty obligations: e.g., criminalization of money laundering based on Vienna and Palermo conventions
- States assessed against standards for technical compliance and effectiveness.
 - Those with significant deficiencies are referred to the international cooperation review group (ICRG)

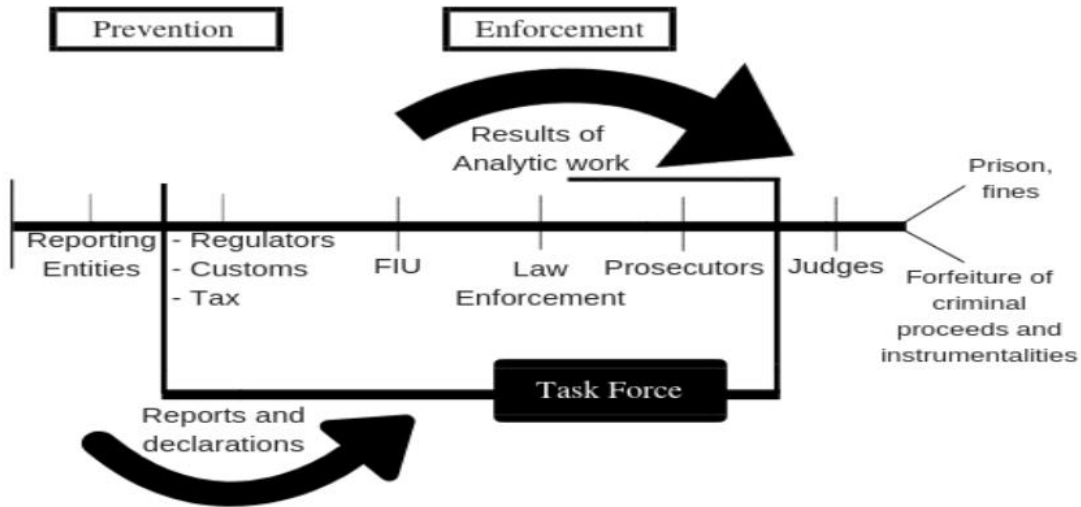


FATF REPORT

Financial flows linked to the production and trafficking of Afghan opiates

June 2014 <http://www.fatf-gafi.org/media/fatf/documents/reports/Financial-flows-linked-to-production-and-trafficking-of-afghan-opiates.pdf>

AML / CFT REGIME



Information Sharing & International Cooperation

- Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units
 - Est. 1996
 - Secure platform for exchange of bank secret information



- Question of primary jurisdiction
 - Required to treat as criminal regardless if predicate crime in same jurisdiction
- Compliance with confiscation order

Task Force approach: Threat Finance Cells

Ø **Threat Finance Cells:** Treasury has helped pioneer a novel approach to attacking illicit financial networks – the Threat Finance Cell – by providing threat finance expertise and actionable intelligence to U.S. civilian and military leaders. First developed in Iraq under Treasury and Defense Department co-leadership, the Afghan Threat Finance Cell (ATFC) seeks to identify and disrupt financial networks related to terrorism, the Taliban, narcotics trafficking and corruption. Led by the Drug Enforcement Agency with Treasury serving as co-deputy, nearly 60 ATFC personnel are embedded with military commands across Afghanistan to improve the targeting of the insurgents' financial structure. Specially-vetted Afghan authorities have also partnered with the ATFC on raids of hawalas suspected of illicit financial activities, including insurgent finance, narcotics trafficking and corruption. This cooperation has resulted in the collection of tens of thousands of financial documents.

<https://www.treasury.gov/press-center/press-releases/Pages/tg1291.aspx>

Task Force approach: Threat Finance Cells

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FinCEN Issues Geographic Targeting Order Covering the Los Angeles Fashion District as Part of Crackdown on Money Laundering for Drug Cartels

20141002.pdf

311.54 KB

Contact: Contact: Steve Hudak (703) 905-3770
Immediate Release: October 02, 2014

'GTO' Impacts Most Businesses in L.A. Fashion District

WASHINGTON, D.C. –The Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) announced today the issuance of a **Geographic Targeting Order (GTO)** that imposes additional reporting and recordkeeping obligations on certain trades and businesses located within the Los Angeles Fashion District. The GTO will enhance law enforcement's ongoing efforts to identify and pursue cases against persons and businesses engaged in the illicit movement of U.S. currency to Mexico and Colombia on behalf of prominent drug trafficking organizations (DTOs).

The GTO, which will go into effect on October 9, was sought by the United States Attorney's Office for the Central District of California, which is working with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) and the Internal Revenue Service's Criminal Investigation division (IRS Criminal Investigation) to fight money laundering schemes designed to allow international drug cartels in Central America and South America to reach drug proceeds generated in the United States.

Extensive law enforcement operations have revealed evidence that money laundering activities and Bank Secrecy Act (BSA) violations are pervasive throughout the Los Angeles Fashion District, which includes more than 2,000 businesses. Much of the money laundering is conducted through Black Market Peso Exchange schemes, also known as trade-based money laundering, in which drug money in the United States is converted into goods that are shipped to countries such as Mexico, where the goods are sold and money now in the form of local currency goes to the drug trafficking organizations.

On September 10, more than 1,000 federal, state and local law enforcement officials were in the Fashion District, where they executed dozens of search warrants and arrest warrants linked to businesses suspected to be engaged in money laundering schemes and evasions of required BSA reporting. Criminal investigations have revealed evidence that many of these businesses are routinely accepting bulk cash as part of schemes involving black market peso exchange and trade-based money laundering on behalf of DTOs based in Mexico and Colombia. During the Sept. 10 enforcement action, HSI special agents seized what was ultimately determined to be more than \$90 million in currency. The cash was found at various residences and businesses stored in file boxes, duffel bags, backpacks and even in the trunk of a Bentley.

<https://www.fincen.gov/news/news-releases/fincen-issues-geographic-targeting-order-covering-los-angeles-fashion-district>

Global Initiative Consultation Meeting in Bangkok

On invitation of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime (GI-TOC) Director Tariq Khosa participated in a Consultation Meeting in Bangkok on December 13, 2019 on “The Future of Organized Crime”. This consultation was one in a series of thematic and regional consultations with GI Network members to explore the current global trends on organized crime. These consultations will feed into a drafting process for a wide-ranging report on global organized crime trends that the GI-TOC hopes will contribute towards ongoing organized crime discussions at the UN, including for the 2020 Crime Congress and the UNTOC CoP in 2020.

The report being drafted by Ms Summer Walker, Senior Analyst and New York Representative of GI-TOC, will have a broad scope, discussing both key trends within organized crime and broader geopolitical trends which affect how organized groups operate. Bangkok Network Consultation focused on the overall report framework along with discussions on Human Trafficking, Environmental Crimes and Cyber Crime.

Thailand Institute of Justice (TIJ) co-hosted the consultation meeting along with GI-TOC on December 13, 2019.

Ms Summer Walker shared the overall framework of the report along with results of preliminary survey results on organized crime trends by GI-TOC Network members.

Mr Ian Tennant, Global Initiative Resilience Fund Manager co-chaired the day-long consultation meeting with Ms Summer Walker. Three very useful presentations were made on Human Trafficking, Environmental Crimes and Cyber Crimes.

Mr Tariq Khosa Director National Initiative against Organized Crime in Pakistan, was given an opportunity to speak about our recently launched pilot project with the collaboration of GI Resilience Fund. He specially mentioned the platform provided by Pak Institute of Peace Studies Islamabad and also the assistance by Citizen-Police Liaison Committee (CPLC) Karachi.

It is proposed that NIOC Pakistan may organize a 2-day international workshop in Islamabad on Organized Crime in March 2020. We hope to invite some key experts in the four areas of organized Crime that we are focusing on during our 6-month long pilot project: Terror Financing, Drug Trafficking, Human Trafficking and Cyber Crimes.

Manager GI Resilience Fund specially appreciated issuance of NIOC first Newsletter for November, 2019. A few copies of the newsletter were distributed to GI Network members in Bangkok. The meeting was also informed that NIOC website would be operational soon.

NIOC Directorate Breakfast Meeting

Director NIOC hosted a breakfast meeting at Islamabad Club on 20 December 2019 that was attended by Secretary NIOC Amir Rana, Adviser/Consultant Kashif Noon and Manager Administration Hassan Sardar. Plan of activities for January 2020 were discussed.

Drugs Trafficking in Pakistan: An Analysis

Setting the Context: The National Anthem of United States of America, ends with a phrase; “from sea to the shining sea”. The Pakistani analogy would be, from the snows of Karakorum to the blue waters of Arabian Sea. Pakistan is geographically a linear country, with all kinds of wondrous landscapes. It borders five countries; Peoples’ Republic of China in the North, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in the West, Islamic Republic of Iran in the South West and India in the East. This geographical juncture makes Pakistan a natural transit country and a staging post for global trade; astraddle the ancient Silk Road. This locational advantage of Pakistan is used for trade in goods and services and with China Pakistan Economic Corridor and other projects global trade through and from Pakistan is increasing. This locational advantage of Pakistan is also exploited by transboundary drug trade. Pakistan’s long Western border is porous. It is being fenced but still many parts of the border are remote and un-guarded. The Pakistani coastline is 990 km and stretches from India to Middle East and Iran. It is patrolled but most of it remains unprotected. This situation is exploited by the international drug mafia and Pakistani territory is misused as transit route for International drug trade.



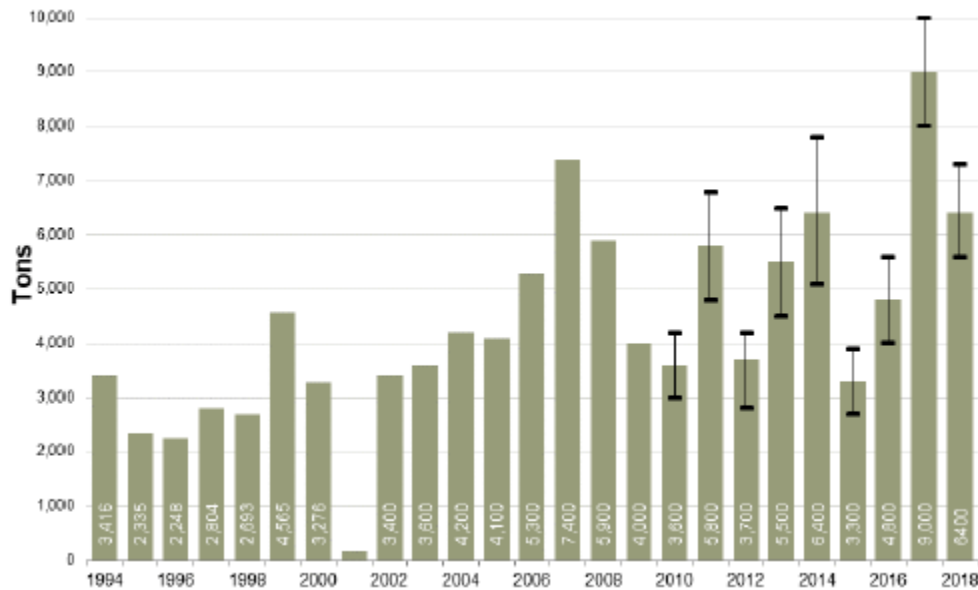
Overview of Pakistan’s Drug Problem:

Pakistan has always pursued a zero tolerance policy for all types and forms of drugs. As a result of this relentless policy pursuit, Pakistan’s drug production has been reduced substantially. Almost to a naught. Pakistan had a poppy cultivation problem in erstwhile Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA). The remote areas of this loosely administered region like Tirrah valley were known poppy cultivation area. Pakistan’s operations against terrorism in FATA and other efforts also eradicated the poppy cultivation problem. Moreover, the constitutional re-integration of former FATA in to KP Province has further

reduced the possibility of poppy cultivation as now the former tribal agencies are regular districts of the province. Therefore, it can now be safely stated that only two kinds of drug problems remain in Pakistan; Pakistan being used by global drug trade as a transit route and domestic drug abuse in Pakistan. However, the collaboration and correlation of other forms of organized crime remains strong and has exacerbated the drug trafficking problem in Pakistan. Often drug smugglers, human traffickers and traditional smugglers collaborate and share intelligence. Sharing a long western border with Afghanistan and Iran has created a vulnerability for Pakistan. According to a UNODC report Afghanistan has become the largest producer of opiate based drugs. Law enforcement is confronting greater challenges, due to 63% increase in poppy cultivation in Afghanistan and growing drug addicts in Pakistan (currently around 8.9 million). Afghanistan's poppy production reached almost 11000 tons in 2017 and it has increased in the intervening years. This has increased Pakistan's drug trafficking vulnerability as well as the risk of increased domestic drug use.

Transit Route Problem:

Conflict in Afghanistan has boosted poppy cultivation and drug production in the country. Pakistan shares a border of 7,307 km. The border with Iran is 909 km. Despite fencing of border many areas remain unguarded, especially the border with Iran. Drug trafficking infamously adapts to border controls. The ironical paradox is that methodologies adopted to curb drug trafficking leads to increased street value and thus more profits for the traffickers. The transit route issue has two dimensions; a) the smuggling of Heroin and other drugs from Afghanistan to rest of the world and b) inward smuggling of Precursor chemicals. Pakistan sits on one of the world's busiest drug trafficking corridors, largely due to the cultivation of opium poppy and cannabis in Afghanistan. Latest UNODC Report on Drug Use in Pakistan, estimates 40 per cent of the drugs (heroin & hashish) produced in Afghanistan are routed through Pakistan generating a considerable opiate supply for export but also for domestic use. Other than cannabis and opium poppy, available data points to an emerging supply of amphetamine-type stimulants (ATS), ecstasy, and cocaine. Opium production in Afghanistan was 185 metric tons in 2001, increased to 9000 metric tons in 2017 (highest ever) and 6400 metric tons in 2018 (second highest).

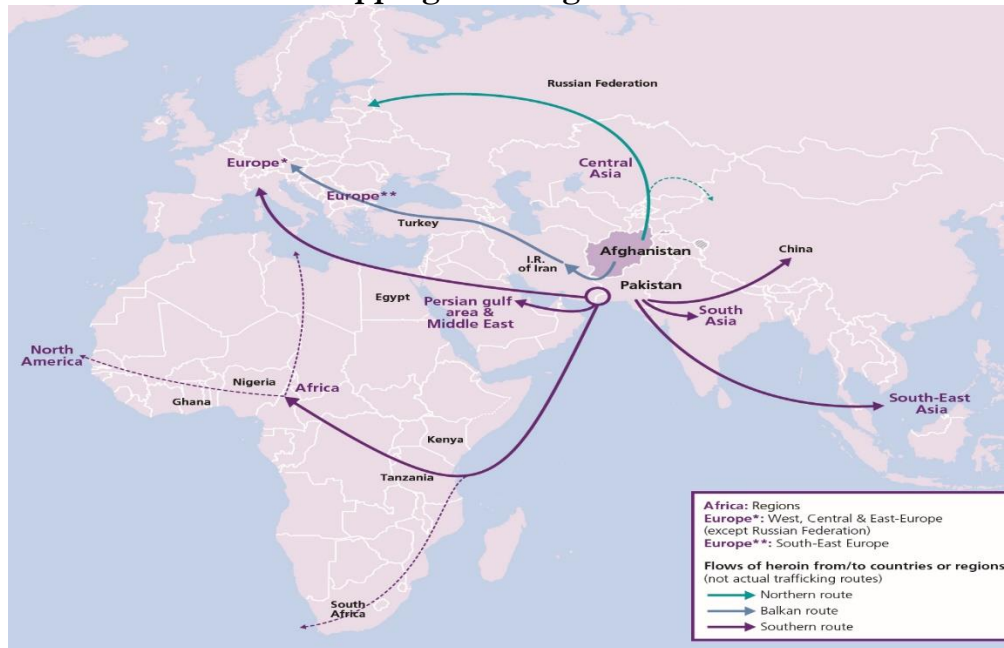


Source: UNODC

In 2018 Afghanistan produced 9000 metric tons of opium accounting for 87 percent of the global opiates market. The 2018 Afghanistan Opium Poppy Survey highlights the fact that in total of 263000 hectares’ opium was cultivated. Helmand remained the country's leading opium poppy cultivating province followed by Kandahar, Uruzgan and Nangarhar all bordering provinces of Pakistan.

Over the course of the last few years’ new routes have appeared in some regions. Since 2004, Pakistan has seized increasing levels of heroin being trafficked to China through Pakistan. This new trafficking route from Afghanistan via Pakistan to China will be monitored more carefully. Pakistan is a possible transit country for precursors en-route to Afghanistan. The Anti-Narcotics Force Pakistan (ANF) believes that precursor chemicals are most likely smuggled through UAE, Central Asia, China, and India into Pakistan and then onwards to Afghanistan. It is also believed by Pakistan’s LEAs that mislabeled containers of acetic anhydride form part of the cargo in the Afghan transit trade.

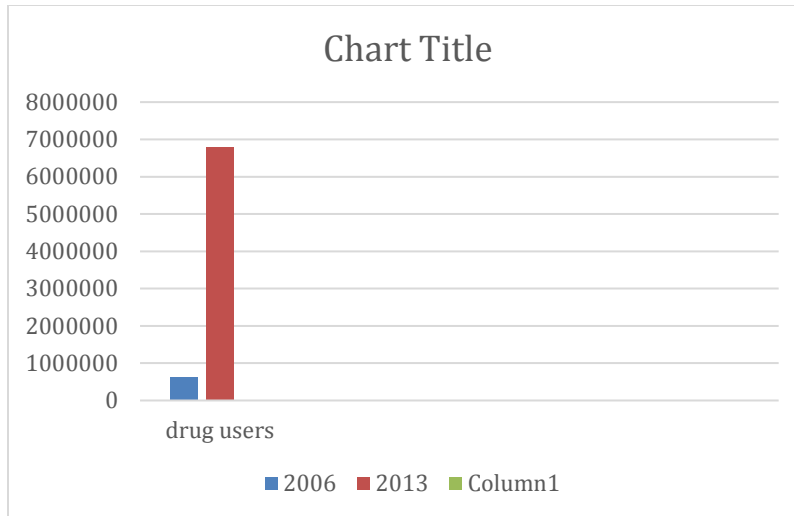
Mapping the Drug Routes



Source: UNODC

Domestic Drugs Use Problem:

The 2006 National Assessment Study of Problem Drug Use in Pakistan estimated 640,000 Opioid users. Of these, around 500,000 (77 percent) are heroin users. The prevalence of injecting drug users in 2006 was estimated to be around 130,000. The estimated number of injecting drug users in Pakistan has doubled between 2000 and 2006. Given the massive increase of opium and heroin production in Afghanistan, this is a notable spike. According to a 2013 report by UNODC now the number of drug users in Pakistan has reached 6.8 Million, which is alarming. In last few years it has been observed that the use of synthetic drugs by youth in the country is on increase. Ecstasy, Buprenorphine, and other psychotropic are smuggled from India, UAE, and Europe for the emerging local Pakistani market. The Pakistani affluent youth are the new target customer base for these chemical and psychotropic drugs, besides the traditional drugs; Heroin and Hashish. These drugs are pedaled on campus for the impressionable, making it difficult to detect by the LEAs. The percentage increase in drug use is astronomical over a period of 6 years.



The same UNODC report states that there are, 4.25 million people who are thought to be suffering from drug use disorders and drug dependence, reporting significant challenges controlling or reducing their use and experiencing negative personal consequences as a result of their drug use. About 700 people die in Pakistan every day due to drug-related complications. The reports also present classification data, according to which, Regular heroin users are 860,000, Opium users 320,000 and Injection drug users 430,000. The prevalence of inhalant drug use is high among street children. There is a substantial drug use problem in Pakistan. The prevalent use of psychotropic drugs is undocumented yet and there is a risk that use of these drugs is on the rise especially through on-campus drug peddling. There is anecdotal evidence that drug peddling is done by students and the prevalence is high across the gender divide, especially the use of party drugs.

Strategic Approach to Deal with Pakistan's Drug Problem

It is proposed that a three pronged strategic approach may be adopted to deal with Pakistan's drug problem:

- a) Address the drug transit route problem through following proposed measures:
 1. Formation of a Regional Task Force (RTF) for reduction and eradication of outflow of processed drugs from Afghanistan and reduction and eradication of inflow of precursor chemicals in to Afghanistan through Pakistan. The proposed RTF can inter-alia do high frequency intelligence sharing on outward smuggling from Afghanistan, coordinate with

precursor chemical production industry for data sharing on production, collect data on legitimate use of precursor chemicals and keep record of surpluses if any, Coordinate with LEAs of point of origin of chemical drugs and party drugs like amphetamine, ecstasy et all and have periodic meetings for coordination.

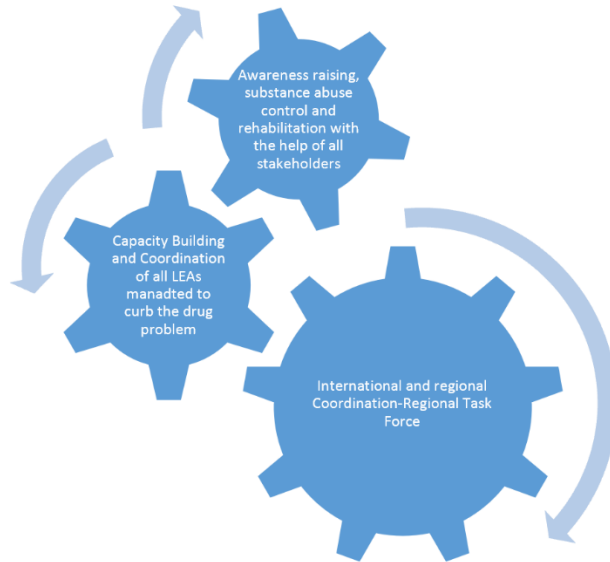
2. Under the UNODC's Paris Pact initiative, Pakistan hosted a round table meeting in March 2005. The international community expressed wholehearted support towards capacity building of LEAs by pledging to mainstream drug control measures in their development assistance programs, providing evidence-based intelligence information and cooperating in combating the smuggling of acetic anhydride into Afghanistan. The Government of Pakistan supports UNODC's Triangular Cooperation Initiative which will ensure practical cooperation to strengthen border controls between Afghanistan, Iran and Pakistan. Triangular Initiative forum was activated after 6 years in 2018 where it was pledged by participants that the forum will be utilized optimally to fight drug abuse. A ministerial meeting is planned in 2019.
 3. Have more coordinated border control regime through Customs Cooperation and other Border control LEAs.
- b) Enhanced Coordination and Capacity Building of all LEAs mandated to curb drug smuggling through following means:
1. More budgetary allocations for the LEAs dealing with drug smuggling and introducing a system of performance reward for seizures and interdictions.
 2. Capacity building of LEAs dealing with drug smuggling, including but not limited to training, detection equipment and enhanced skilled human resources.
 3. High frequency coordination of Inter-agency task force (IATF) under Ministry of Narcotics Control, including ANF, Pakistan Customs, Pakistan Rangers, Pakistan Coast Guards and Frontier Corps. Inter-Agency coordination should also be strengthened through regular meetings of the Policy Review Board (PRB), the Narcotics Interdiction Committee (NIC) and Inter Agency Task Force (IATF). The NIC needs to be revitalized to include discussion on assets forfeiture and drug generated money laundering. The emphasis on drug demand reduction, including the

enforcement of regulations related to over the counter sale of narcotic and psychotropic substances need to be enhanced

4. The slow and cumbersome process of realizing the value of forfeited drug generated assets is a serious shortcoming. It is recommended that dedicated wings be established within the ANF for assets forfeiture for which additional resources have been allocated. A computerized database on drug trafficker's assets is proposed to be established to curb drug related money laundering. Fast tracked realization of forfeited assets will generate significant deposits in the National Fund for the Control of Drug Abuse established under the Control of Narcotics Substances (CNS) Act 1997. The procedure for the utilization of these funds is cumbersome and needs revision for quick liquidation of assets accumulated through drug trade.
- c) Control on campus and off campus drug use among the youth and other vulnerable groups. This can be done by adopting following measures:
1. Awareness of Campus administrations on the prevalence of drug use and peddling methodologies. It is also useful to have regular coordination with local police and campus authorities on this key issue of substance abuse on campus.
 2. The awareness, prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of drug use requires interventions and programs at multiple levels; combining school based programs, community based prevention, health promotion activities and targeted prevention and intervention programs focusing on street children and Most At Risk Adolescents (MARA). Drug treatment services must be able to adapt to meet the emerging and diverse needs of drug dependent persons, especially those with co-morbidities such as HCV, HIV, STDs and TB. The area of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation requires capacity building (including specialized drug demand reduction staff in the ANF).

The Public Sector Development Plan (PSDP) of Ministry of Narcotics Control may include special projects on raising awareness on drug abuse with all stakeholders, including but not limited to CSOs, Bar Associations, Traders Associations and other indigenous civil society

organizations. The awareness raising projects may be implemented in tandem with prevention projects in schools and higher education institutions.



Annexure A
Despite the Challenges: Interdictions

