

Working paper

International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development

**UNGASS expert consultations
Vienna, 18-20 September 2007**

Note: The paragraphs in *italic* and between brackets throughout this first draft will be changed/updated accordingly as the BRQ data for the fifth cycle and other relevant information become available.

Contents

- I. Global overview of illicit cultivation
- II. Action by Governments
 - A. Policy and strategic responses to illicit drug crop cultivation
 - B. International cooperation for alternative development
 - C. Difficulties encountered in the implementation of alternative development programmes
 - D. Improved and innovative approaches to alternative development
 - E. Monitoring of illicit cultivation, information-sharing and evaluation of the impact of alternative development programmes
 - F. Improving the economic framework for alternative development
- III. Action by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
 - A. Global monitoring of illicit drug crops
 - B. Overview of alternative development initiatives
 - 1. Central and South-West Asia
 - 2. East and South-East Asia
 - 3. Andean region
 - 4. North Africa
- IV. Conclusion

Figures

- I. Global illicit opium poppy cultivation, 1993-2006
- II. Global illicit opium production, 1993-2006
- III. Global coca bush cultivation, 1994-2006
- IV. Global potential cocaine production, 1994-2006
- V. Estimates of global cannabis herb production, 1992-2005
- VI. Percentage of reporting States having national plans or programmes to reduce and eliminate the cultivation of illicit drug crops
- VII. Percentage of reporting States with national plans or programmes to reduce and eliminate the cultivation of illicit drug crops, selected regions
- VIII. Percentage of States reporting international cooperation for alternative development and programmes to eradicate illicit narcotic crops
- IX. Percentage of States reporting areas posing difficulties in the implementation of alternative development programmes
- X. Percentage of States reporting having significant areas covered by alternative development or crop eradication programmes, or both
- XI. Methods used for the monitoring of illicit crop cultivation, expressed as a percentage of reporting States
- XII. Systems of monitoring and evaluation of alternative development and eradication programmes, expressed as a percentage of reporting States
- XIII. Sales of farm enterprises linked to UNODC in Peru, 2001-2006

Tables

- I. Reported cumulative (aerial and manual) eradication of coca bush, 1994-2006
- II. Farm-gate value and per capita income from coca

I. Global overview of illicit cultivation

1. The present addendum to the fifth and final biennial report of the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) reports on the progress achieved by Governments in implementing the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development (General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E) of 1998. The report contains information provided by Member States in the fifth biennial reports questionnaire, covering the period 2006-2007 and previous biennial reports questionnaires, together with information on the assistance provided by UNODC to Member States in the implementation of the Action Plan. Pursuant to CND resolutions 49/1 and 50/12 the report includes information from specialized organizations in support of the global assessment.

2. *[[Global illicit opium poppy cultivation declined by 27 per cent, from 277,400 hectares (ha) in 1993 to 201,900 ha in 2006 (see figure I). However, this downward trend was disrupted in 2006 as a result of large increases in illicit opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan. Globally, illicit opium poppy production reached 6,630 tons in 2006, reflecting a 41 per cent increase over 2005 estimates (see figure II), with Afghanistan accounting for 92 per cent of total global cultivation. Preliminary results from the UNODC surveys of farmers' intentions in 2007 point to an increase in the likelihood that farmers will replant.]]*

Figure I

Global illicit opium poppy cultivation, 1993-2006
(Hectares)

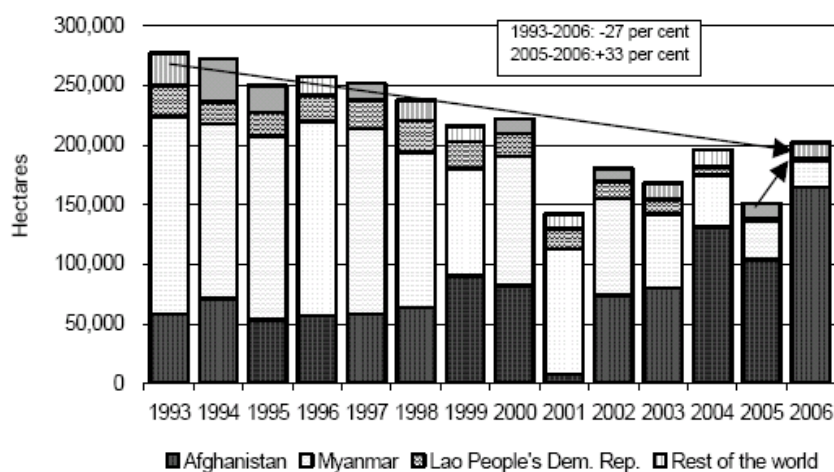
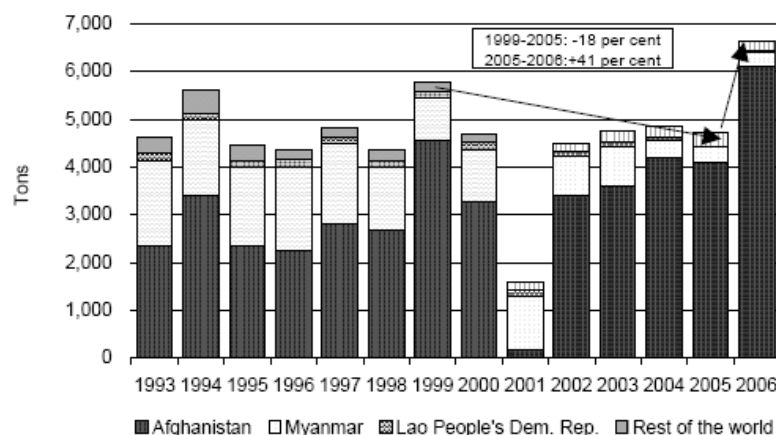


Figure II
Global illicit opium production, 1993-2006
 (Tons)



3. *[[If the figures for Afghanistan were to be set aside, it would be seen that an 85 per cent decline in illicit opium poppy cultivation in South-East Asia's Golden Triangle had been achieved since 1998. Today, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Thailand are virtually opium-free. In Myanmar between 1998 and 2006, opium poppy cultivation declined by 83 per cent. If viewed subregionally, global total illicit opium poppy cultivation fell from 66 per cent in 1998 to 12 per cent in 2006.]]*

4. The illicit cultivation of the coca bush in the Andean States of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru has been contained in the last years and remained stable since 2003. The total area under coca cultivation in the three countries together declined by 29 per cent, from the peak level of 221,300 ha in 2000 to 156,900 ha in 2006 (see figure III). Between 1998 and 2006, the decline was of 18 per cent. Close to 1,400,000 hectares of coca bush have been eradicated in the three countries between 1994 and 2006: 86 per cent of which in Colombia, 8 per cent in Bolivia and 7 per cent in Peru (see table I).

5. Despite the decline in the area under coca cultivation, the estimated cocaine production has remained practically unchanged from the levels of a decade ago with a potential 984 tons being produced in 2006 (see figure IV). This trend can be attributed to the increased use of pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides, irrigation, as well as improved plant varieties and higher plant densities. Also, clandestine cocaine laboratories are believed to have become more proficient in recent years. In 2006, Colombia accounted for 62 per cent of the estimated global cocaine production, Peru for 28 per cent and Bolivia for 10 per cent¹.

¹ These estimates take into consideration the revised production estimates for Bolivia and Peru.

Figure III
Global coca bush cultivation and reported eradication, 1994-2006
 (Hectares)

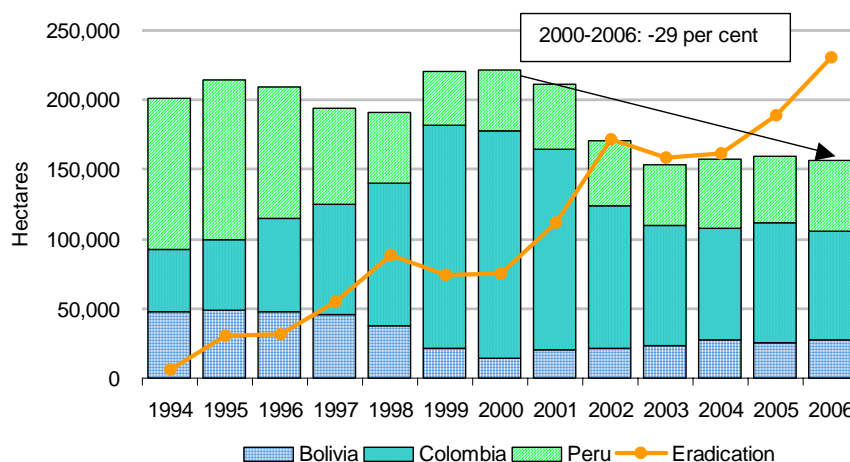
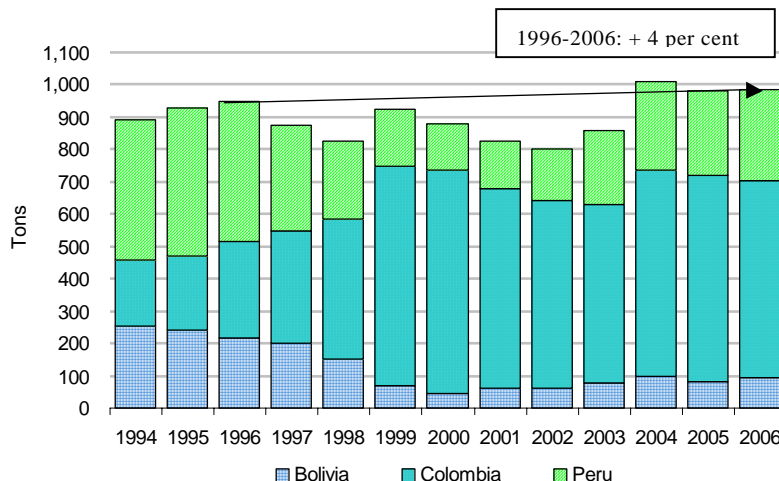


Table I
Reported cumulative (aerial and manual) eradication of coca bush, 1994-2006
 (Hectares)

	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Bolivia	1,100	5,493	7,512	7,000	11,620	15,353	7,653	9,395	11,839	10,089	8,437	6,073	5,070	106,634
Colombia	4,904	25,402	22,576	44,123	69,155	44,158	61,568	95,897	153,126	137,033	142,786	170,752	213,371	1,184,851
Peru	-	-	1,259	3,462	7,834	14,733	6,208	6,436	7,134	11,312	10,399	12,237	12,688	93,702
Total	6,004	30,895	31,347	54,585	88,609	74,244	75,429	111,728	172,099	158,434	161,622	189,062	231,129	1,385,187

Figure IV
Global potential cocaine production, 1994-2006
 (Tons)

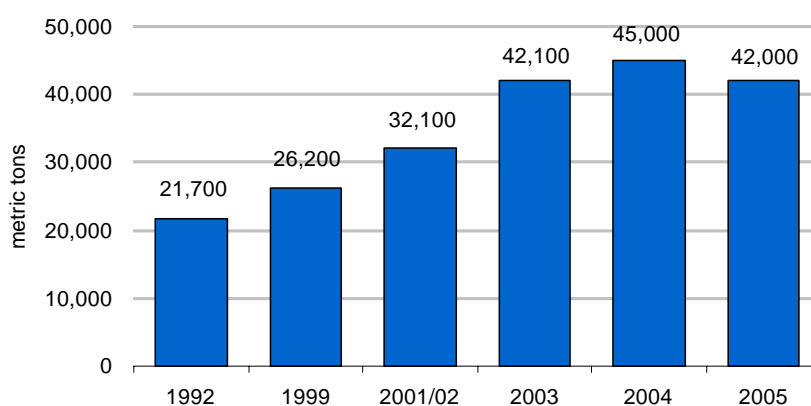


Note: Production estimates for Bolivia in 2004 and 2005 and for Peru from 2003 to 2005 were revised based on updated information available. Colombian cocaine production estimates for 2004 and later are not directly comparable with previous years.

6. UNODC's latest estimates indicate that some 42,000 tons of cannabis herb were produced in 2005, which suggests an stabilization of the cannabis market (see Figure V). As indicated in previous reports, reliable estimates of the global area under cannabis cultivation are not available in view of the widespread nature of cultivation (reports received by UNODC indicate that cannabis production is taking

place in at least 172 countries). UNODC estimated the global area under cannabis cultivation to have amounted to 530,000 ha in 2005² which is substantially higher than the global areas under opium poppy or under coca bush cultivation in the same year; i.e., 151,500 ha and 159,600 ha, respectively. A tentative breakdown of the global cannabis production in 2005 continued to show that almost half of the global cannabis herb is produced in the Americas (46 per cent), followed by Africa (26 per cent), Asia (22 per cent), Europe (5 per cent) and Oceania (1 per cent). Changes in the regional breakdown show an increase in the proportional share accounted for by Asia between 2004 and 2005.

Figure V
Estimates of global cannabis herb production, 1992-2005
 (Tons)



II. Action by Governments

7. *[[Part VI of the fourth biennial reports questionnaire, covering the period from June 2004 to June 2006, elicited 98 responses from Member States, compared with 106 responses received with respect to the third biennial reports questionnaire (2002-2004). The geographical distribution of responses was as follows: Africa, 25 per cent; Asia, 20 per cent; Europe, 36 per cent; Americas, 17 per cent; Oceania, 1 per cent. Compared with the previous reporting cycle, there has been an increase in the number of responses received from States in Asia and a decline in the number of responses provided by States in Africa.*
8. *Regrettably, a response was not received from Afghanistan, a country that is the largest global supplier of illicit opium and where alternative development and alternative livelihood programmes were in place.*
9. *An analysis was conducted of the responses to part VI of the biennial reports questionnaire. Due to the relatively small number of questions, no composite index was constructed for comparison purposes, as was done for the other thematic areas. The analysis is based on the percentage change in positive responses to the various questions. It should be noted, however, that a negative response to a question can mean that the problem does not apply to the country in question or that it has already been successfully addressed.]]*

² UNODC, World Drug Report (2007), p. 96

A. Policy and strategic responses to illicit drug crop cultivation

10. *[[A total of 38 Governments stated in their responses that they had national plans or programmes including alternative development to reduce and eliminate illicit crop cultivation. Of those, 31 indicated that their programmes or plans covered cannabis, 14 opium poppy and 6 coca bush. The percentage of States reporting having such plans or programmes declined slightly from 43 per cent in third reporting period to 39 per cent in the fourth reporting period. Forty-four States or 45 per cent of respondents (compared with 52 per cent in the previous period) reported that their national plans or programmes included eradication or other enforcement measures (see figures VI and VII) targeting illicit cultivation of opium poppy (17 States), coca bush (6 States) and cannabis (40 States). The hierarchy of the target drugs continued to be cannabis, followed by opium poppy and coca bush.]]*

11. *[[Another 45 States or 46 per cent of the responding States reported not having such programmes or plans. Some of the States responding negatively to this question indicated that it was not applicable to their country as cultivation of illicit drug crops was insignificant or non-existent. Other States reported small areas under illicit cultivation, which were dealt with through regular law enforcement operations.]]*

12. Throughout the ten-year reporting period, a number of States provided information on the law enforcement measures taken to control illicit drug crops. The responses included information on the pertinent national laws and decrees, the national agencies and line ministries responsible for their implementation, and corresponding penalties, surveillance and detection techniques, eradication operations and awareness campaigns.

Figure VI

Percentage of reporting States with national plans or programmes to reduce and eliminate the cultivation of illicit drug crops

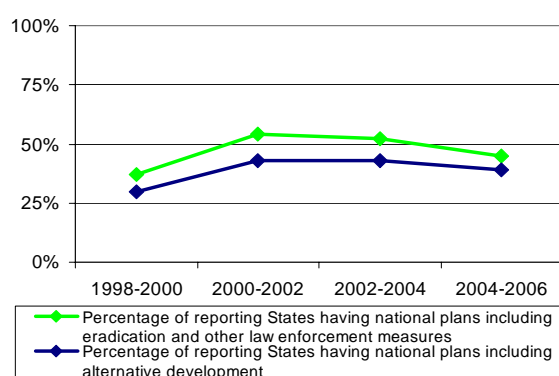
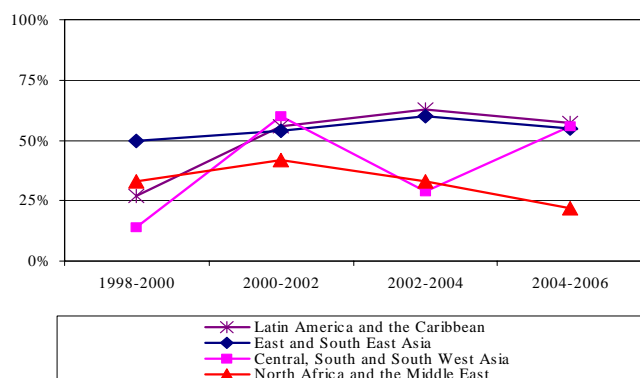


Figure VII

Percentage of reporting States with national plans or programmes including alternative development to reduce and eliminate the cultivation of illicit drug crops, selected regions



13. Pursuant to CND resolution 45/14, a global thematic evaluation of alternative development was carried out in 2005. The evaluation synthesis report³ produced a set of recommendations to improve the effectiveness of alternative development. The report noted the various forms that alternative development had taken ranging from emphasis on security to an emphasis on poverty alleviation and development. The reach of alternative development had been limited; estimated at 23 per cent of the farmers of illicit crops in the Andean countries and 5 per cent in Asia. Alternative development policies had been more effective when all major stakeholders including governments, donors, non-governmental organizations, and beneficiaries had been involved in their formulation; when they allowed for decentralized decision-making, empowered local communities and were flexible to adapt to local contexts⁴.

14. *Mainstreaming.* The evaluation report noted that ‘Alternative development is more effective and more sustainable as part of a wider development scheme whose goal is to improve the livelihoods of marginal rural populations.’⁵ A second thematic evaluation of alternative development also carried out in 2005⁶ arrived to a similar conclusion. It noted that alternative development programmes needed to consider how best projects could be linked to national drugs policy and national economic development policy and that for alternative development to succeed it must be an integral part of the national development programme.

18. *Long-term commitment.* Recognizing the complex nature of the development problems associated with illicit drug crop cultivation, recent assessments of alternative development have noted that long-term political commitment to bringing development to the affected areas and populations was a crucial requirement without which the full-potential of alternative development would not be realized. The global evaluation report noted that ‘Political commitment could not be ad hoc. It implied long-term commitment of financial resources to human development, reasonable drug control laws, respect for human rights and a coordinated inclusion of illicit crop reduction (law enforcement and alternative development) in national and regional planning.’⁷ The thematic debate during the 49th session of the CND in 2006 reached a similar conclusion when it identified political commitment to alternative development and long-term focus as essential ingredients for success⁸. Thailand, now virtually opium free, is a good example of the integration of alternative development into large-scale development and of long-term political commitment.

³ UNODC, *Alternative Development: A Global Thematic Evaluation – Final Synthesis Report* (2005a). The findings of the evaluation rest on recent studies of alternative development in South-East Asia (Lao People’s Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam) and in the Andean Region of South America (Bolivia, Colombia and Peru) and on recent in-depth studies of alternative development in the Aguaytia-Neshuya area of the Huallaga Valley in Peru and in a highland area of Northern Thailand. A Steering Group of independent experts was established to oversee and manage the evaluation.

⁴ UNODC (2005a), op. cit p 11

⁵ UNODC (2005a), op. cit p vii

⁶ UNODC, *Thematic Evaluation of UNODC Alternative Development Initiatives*, Independent Evaluation Unit (2005b) p 33

⁷ UNODC, (2005a), op cit p 12

⁸ E/2006/28; E/CN.7/2006/10, p 34 para. 11

¹⁹. Alternative Development, Eradication and Law Enforcement. The thematic debate in 2006 noted that alternative development should follow an integrated approach that required a mixture of comprehensive activities including sustainable development efforts, demand reduction, interdiction and law enforcement measures, in compliance with human rights obligations. The debate also noted that alternative development needed to be adjusted to local conditions and that the sequencing of activities might change according to those conditions⁹. The relationship between alternative development, eradication and law enforcement measures has been a subject of various studies and evaluations. A recent assessment noted that there was “little evidence that eradication reduced illicit cultivation in the long-term --- drug crops move, production technologies evolve, and total production decreases very slowly if at all.” In addressing sustainability, the report argued for long-term commitment to development. It noted that reductions in illicit crop production were not the only indicators to measure success and that development indicators must be the basis to assess impact and sustainability of alternative development interventions.¹⁰

20. With respect to the situation in Afghanistan, in 2006 the World Bank and UNODC undertook a joint assessment of Afghanistan’s drug industry and its implications for counter-narcotics policy¹¹. The report argued that there was a strong case to initially focus on interdiction efforts against drug traffickers and their sponsors (the biggest threat to state-building) as well as opium-refining facilities, while alternative livelihoods were progressively developed. The interdiction efforts needed to target high-level profiteers whose wealth magnified their potential for corrupting the state. The report noted that strong enforcement efforts against farmers were often ineffective in remote areas with limited resources, assets, and markets. The impact of eradication of opium poppy fields, and of reductions in cultivation resulting from the threat of eradication, tended to be felt most by poor farmers and rural wage labourers, who lacked political support, were unable to pay bribes and could not otherwise protect themselves.¹²

⁹ E/2006/28; E/CN.7/2006/10 p 35

¹⁰ UNODC (2005b), op cit p ix, p x

¹¹ The World Bank, UNODC, *Afghanistan’s Drug Industry-Structure, Functioning, Dynamics and Implications for Counter-Narcotics Policy*, (2006)

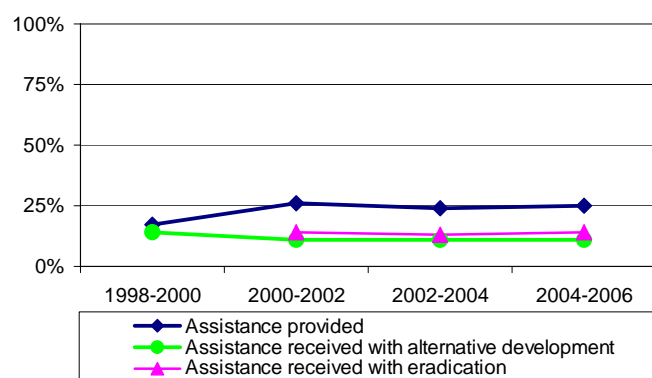
¹² The World Bank, UNODC, *News Release No SAR*, Washington, (28 November 2006)

21. *Broadening the coverage of Alternative Development to include preventive alternative development, cannabis plants and urban areas.* Some countries, notably Ecuador and Venezuela, have designed and implemented policies and programmes aimed at preventing drug crop cultivation. The thematic debate in 2006 referred to the need to broaden the concept of alternative development to include preventive alternative development. Preventive alternative development was referred to as an efficient strategy, because of its direct association with socio-economic development and environmental conservation, and a means to prevent the displacement of illicit crops to other areas and reduce the increase in illicit drug production.¹³ The thematic debate also noted that, while the regional focus of UNODC had previously been in the Andean countries and South-East Asia, it should be broadened to assist countries in other regions. In that context, it was noted that alternative development programmes should be made available and applied to the problem of illicit cultivation of cannabis plants, in particular in Africa¹⁴. The International Narcotics Control Board (INCB) its 2005 report noted that "... there is increasing recognition that the focus of alternative development, as it has generally been practised, needs to be broadened, paying greater attention to the needs of marginalized and neglected populations in both rural and urban areas. Governments, international organizations and other parties concerned need to ensure that the relevant communities—not just communities growing illicit drug crops but all communities affected by the illicit drug economy—are provided with legitimate livelihoods that are both viable and sustainable in the long term."¹⁵

B. International cooperation for alternative development

22. *[[In the fourth reporting period, 24 States or 25 per cent of respondents reported providing assistance to other States, on a bilateral, regional or multilateral basis, through alternative development programmes to eliminate illicit narcotics (25 States or 24 per cent of respondents in the previous period). This is an encouraging development, but in absolute figures it still lags behind the 31 States that had reported providing assistance in the second reporting period (2000-2002). A total of 11 States (11 per cent of respondents) reported having received technical assistance with alternative development programmes and 14 States (14 per cent of respondents) with eradication programmes, percentages that remained largely unchanged if compared with the third reporting period (see figure VIII).¹⁶]]*

*Figure VIII
Percentage of States reporting international cooperation for alternative development and programmes to eradicate illicit narcotic crops*



23. Over the past twenty years, UNODC has provided multilateral assistance for alternative development. States such as Australia, Austria, Canada, Finland, France,

¹³ E/2006/28; E/CN.7/2006/10 p 36

¹⁴ *ibid.* See also the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) resolution 2006/31 Using alternative development programmes to reduce the cultivation of cannabis plants⁷

¹⁵ International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), (*E/INCB/2005/1*), (2005) p 9

¹⁶ The question on assistance received with eradication was included for the first time in the biennial reports questionnaire for the second reporting period.

Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States have provided assistance in Asia or Latin America, or both, through alternative development programmes of UNODC. During the last years, Bolivia, Colombia and Peru have also provided substantial financial support to alternative development programmes in their countries.

24. In the fifth reporting period, a number of States reported on bilateral assistance in support of alternative development. Belgium reported that it had provided assistance to agro-forestry development in Bolivia. Croatia reported on technical assistance provided to Afghanistan. Finland reported supporting programmes in Peru and providing technical assistance to Afghanistan. France reported that it had supported alternative development in Afghanistan, Morocco and Latin America through the European Union and bilateral programmes. Germany reported providing technical assistance to Afghanistan, Bolivia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Peru. Luxembourg reported having supported projects in South America and South-East Asia. Japan reported having provided bilateral assistance to Myanmar and the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The United States reported providing bilateral assistance for eradication and alternative development to Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, as well as to Afghanistan and the Lao People's Democratic Republic.

25. Colombia reported that it had shared information with Member States of the *Comunidad Andina* (Andean Community) and entered into a cooperation agreement with Thailand aimed at strengthening alternative development in both countries. Ecuador reported that the Bi-national Commission of Colombian-Ecuadorian Vicinity had advanced in the formulation of bi-national projects. Egypt reported having exchanged information on alternative development with neighbouring countries. The Philippines reported on cooperation regarding the exchange of information and training. Thailand reported that it had provided technical and financial support to the Baan Yong Kha development project in Myanmar and training courses on alternative development for officials from Afghanistan and Central Asia in cooperation with the Mae Fah Luang Foundation. The Islamic Republic of Iran reported having cooperated with Afghanistan on development and law enforcement projects.

26. The World Bank in Afghanistan informed that it had developed Afghanistan-specific counter-narcotics mainstreaming guidelines¹⁷. The guidelines were aimed at assisting the Bank to screen its activities in Afghanistan to ensure that counter-narcotics aspects were treated consistently and contributed to the national counter-narcotics effort. The World Bank in Bolivia provided information on its assistance to the country with mainstream development. The Asian Development Bank in Lao People's Democratic Republic informed about a forthcoming completion report of the 'Shifting Cultivation Stabilization Pilot Project' which the Bank co-financed with UNODC in the Houaphanh Province.

C. Difficulties encountered in the implementation of alternative development programmes

27. *[[A total of 29 States or 30 per cent of respondents cited financial constraints as being the greatest obstacle to the implementation of alternative development programmes. The next biggest obstacles were the lack of a supporting structure to deliver the development assistance (cited by 23 States), lack of technical expertise (15 States) and coordination problems (11 States). Compared with the previous reporting period, the hierarchy of obstacles remained unchanged (see figure IX). A total of 32 States (the same number of States as in the previous period) indicated that they had the necessary technical expertise to initiate alternative development programmes.¹⁸*

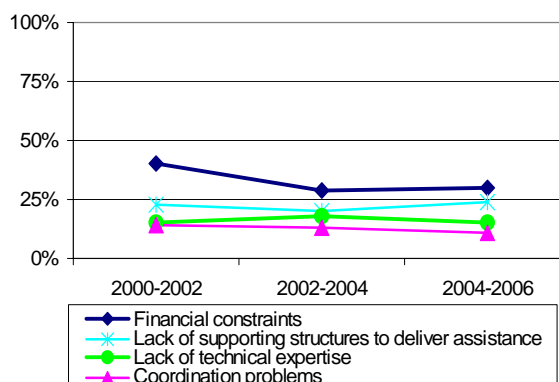
¹⁷ The World Bank, *Treating the Opium Problem in World Bank Operations in Afghanistan – Guideline Note*, (2006)

¹⁸ The question on the constraints faced by Governments in the implementation of alternative development programmes was included for the first time in the biennial reports questionnaire for the second reporting period.

This conclusion is an indication that national capacity-building has been sufficient to date.]]

Figure IX

Percentage of States reporting areas posing difficulties in the implementation of alternative development programmes



28. *[[It is noted that although 29 States cited financial constraints as a difficulty faced in the implementation of alternative development programmes, only 9 (compared with 12 in the previous period) reported having negotiated financial assistance for alternative development and eradication programmes with international financial institutions or regional development banks, or both. Of those, 5 States reported having received support in that respect.]]*

29. Throughout the ten-year reporting period, a number of States reported on the constraints faced in obtaining financial support including support from international financial institutions and/or regional development banks for alternative development. In the last reporting period, Bolivia reported that it could not count with new funds for the implementation of the new policy of 'Integral Development with Coca' due to previous international commitments. Morocco indicated that substitution crops needed to be subsidized in the early stages of alternative development programmes as they were not sufficiently profitable to elicit bank loans. Myanmar reported that it had not received such support because of political and economic sanctions by major donor countries. Paraguay reported that financial constraints had precluded an assessment of the extent of cannabis cultivation and the characteristics of the population involved, and that the country had not yet elicited international support to address the problem. Lebanon reported that it hoped to receive financial assistance for alternative development from the United Nations. In the 2004-2006 reporting period, Ghana reported that commercial banks did not see alternative development as a viable venture due to low repayment rates and would therefore not finance such programmes.

30. Throughout the ten-year reporting period, several States reported on their efforts to secure financial resources for the eradication of illicit narcotic crops and/or alternative development programmes. Most of the States reporting indicated that those programmes were financed by domestic resources. A number of States also reported on bi-lateral and multilateral support received for alternative development and eradication programmes.

31. The thematic debate in 2006 identified a number of major challenges facing alternative development. These included poverty, security conditions, weak legal framework, and geographical isolation of affected communities, limited presence of the State, poor infrastructure, environmental concerns, market access, and the need to engage the private sector in marketing the products of alternative development.¹⁹

32. The Organization of American States Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (OAS/CICAD) noted that various factors had affected the

¹⁹ E/2006/28; E/CN.7/2006/10 p 34

implementation and sustainability of alternative development programmes in the region, including the unreliability of funding sources. Further, lack of coordination of alternative development policies in the region was another common problem observed by Member States. This, in turn, had led to the displacement of illicit cultivation. In this regard, CICAD and Member States had established the Andean Alternative Development Committee (CADA). CADA's principal objective is to adopt a joint approach in each of the various national alternative development plans and to forge closer ties among the Andean countries in this field.²⁰

33. The global evaluation report noted that in the Andean region, illicit coca growers had ranked a lack of viable, stable markets for initiatives as a major difficulty they faced in addition to poor roads, lack of credit and absence of agro-industry. For South-East Asia, while facing many of the same difficulties, the ethnic issue had been highlighted and the focus had been on gaining entrance to national society and access to its services²¹.

34. Information on the engagement of International Financial Institutions (IFIs) in development interventions in areas affected by illicit cultivation points to a need for greater efforts on the part of the affected Governments and IFIs. Increased efforts are needed to enlarge the scope and coverage of the development assistance reaching the affected areas and populations. Greater efforts are also required with respect to trade agreements in order to increase the competitiveness of alternative licit crops.

D. Improved and innovative approaches to alternative development

35. *[[Approximately one quarter of the responding States indicated that their alternative development programmes contained provisions to support the establishment and training of community organizations. Twenty-two States, compared with 17 in the previous period, reported having extended financial support to community initiatives through their alternative development and/or eradication programmes.]]* In the last reporting period, Colombia reported on a number of initiatives in support of institution building at local and regional levels and community activities. Paraguay reported that it had monitored projects in areas formerly cultivating illicit drugs. The United States provided financial support to local state governments.

36. *[[Compared with the previous reporting period, an increased number of States indicated that their alternative development programmes provided for participatory approaches. Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean accounted for the largest proportion of States responding positively to the incorporation of a gender dimension and environmental concerns in their alternative development programmes. Fewer States (19 compared with 26 in the previous reporting period) reported that their alternative development programmes took into consideration measures to reduce illicit drug demand. Also, fewer States reported that their programmes took into consideration traditional medicinal practices (see figure X).²²]]*

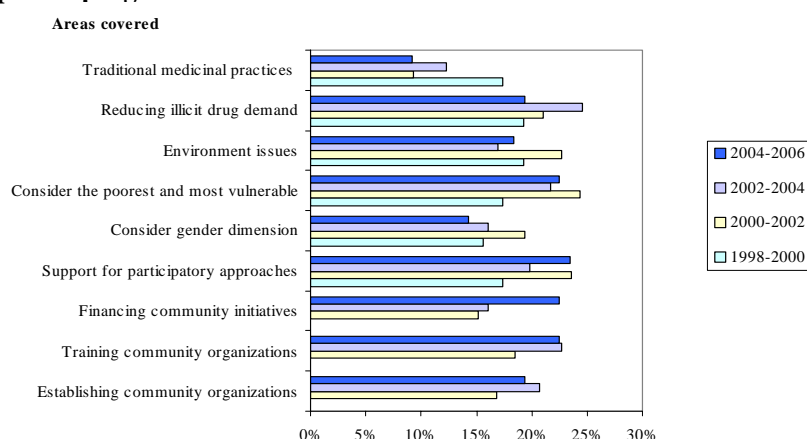
²⁰ OAS/CICAD, *Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and Alternative Development, Compilation from Multilateral Evaluation Mechanism (MEM) First, Second and Third Round Hemispheric Reports*, (2007) p. 3, p. 10

²¹ UNDOC (2005a), *op.cit.*, p 2-3

²² The questions related to support for community organizations and community initiatives were first introduced in the biennial reports questionnaire for the second reporting period.

Figure X

Percentage of States reporting having significant areas covered by alternative development programmes



37. *Gender Dimension.* Since the early 1990s, alternative development projects have attempted to address gender issues with mixed impact. A recent study in Thailand showed that the Thai-German Highland Development Programme had benefited women with improvements in health, education and subsistence agriculture. However, the study also reported that development had reduced women’s control of resources, expanding male household economic role at their expense. A recent study in Peru showed that women’s level of participation in decisions related to alternative development in the study area (Aguaytía-Neshuya area, Huallaga Valley) had increased compared with the time when projects began for all projects²³.

38. *Environmental Concerns.* Illicit drug cultivation and production can negatively impact the environment in different ways. For example, when forest areas are cleared for coca bush cultivation or when forest products are overexploited by poor communities as a coping strategy following the loss of income caused by opium bans. Over the last decade, various alternative development projects, in particular in the Andean Region, have focused on environmental protection with encouraging results. In Bolivia, the UNODC-supported ten year forest management and agro-forestry programme, known as *Jatun Sacha*, has improved the lives of some 10,000 families, strengthened institutional capacities of producers’ associations, positively influenced Government forestry legislation and policy and contributed to the development of a culture which values natural resources. The *Jatun Sacha* experience was used in the elaboration of the *Monte Bravo* forest management and agro-forestry pilot project in the Pacific Coast of Narino in Colombia. The latter is a relatively new intervention, whose assessment of impact to date is encouraging. In Thailand, the Thai-German Highland Development Programme improved watershed management and the ecological balance in general. ²⁴

39. *Participatory Approaches.* Assessments of the use of participatory approaches in alternative development have deemed them no less important than in mainstream development. In alternative development, in particular, processes need to be participatory and democratic as a relationship of trust among all stakeholders is crucial for success. The experiences with Participatory Village Planning (PVP) and capacity building of Village Development Committees (VDC) in Lao People’s Democratic Republic have been

A “participatory approach” means more than just consulting communities about their wishes. It requires serious dialogue in which these communities are allowed to have substantial leeway for negotiation. (GTZ/ UNDOC, *The Role of Alternative Development in Drug Control and Development Cooperation*, 2002) p.25

²³ UNODC (2005a), op. cit p 9, p 27

²⁴ UNODC (2005a), op. cit p 7

assessed as good practices²⁵. The Myanmar experience in working with district development organizations also proved successful. It allowed for local ownership as beneficiaries participated in the identification of project activities which were implemented by their own respective development organizations (Laukai District Development Organization and the Nam Tit Township Development Organization in the Kokang and Wa Special Regions)²⁶.

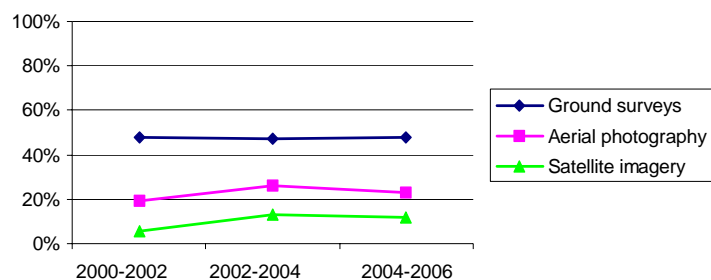
40. *Drug Abuse Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation.* Drug abuse prevention and treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts have been an integral part of alternative development in particular in South-East Asia. In Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Palavek project (1989-1996) initiated the first village-based treatment and rehabilitation programme in the country. In Myanmar, the first drug demand reduction programme was introduced in 2002 in Mong Pawk district. In both countries, alternative development made inroads in treating drug addicts and supporting their reintegration into society. In Afghanistan, levels of opium and heroin abuse have increased substantially in recent years. Of great concern is opium smoking by women and children in remote villages with no access to medical services, who use opium for medicinal purposes oblivious to its dangers. Recent developments in Latin America indicate increased involvement of small farmers in the production of coca base and coca paste, especially in Colombia. This, in turn, is cause of concern as it can potentially increase levels of substance abuse in source areas.

E. Monitoring of illicit cultivation, information-sharing and evaluation of the impact of alternative development programmes

41. *[[In terms of mechanisms for monitoring illicit crop cultivation,²⁷ compared with the previous reporting period there was a decline in the percentage of States reporting the use of aerial photography (see figure XI). Countries in sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America and the Caribbean accounted for almost half of those reporting on the use of ground surveys. The States most affected by coca bush cultivation reported the use of the three monitoring methods]].* Throughout the ten-year reporting period, some States consistently reported on monitoring through human intelligence, community policing, information networks, ground patrols and surveillance by helicopter in specific and isolated cases.

Figure XI

Methods used for the monitoring of illicit crop cultivation, expressed as a percentage of reporting States



42. *[[A total of 44 States, compared with 55 in the previous period, indicated that they had shared information on the monitoring of illicit cultivation at the national, regional and international levels. Also, fewer States (21, compared to 26 in the*

²⁵ GTZ, UNODC, *The Role of Alternative Development in Drug Control and Development Cooperation*, (2002), p 23

²⁶ UNODC, *Alternative Development: Sharing Good Practices, Facing Common Problems*, 2001, p. 59

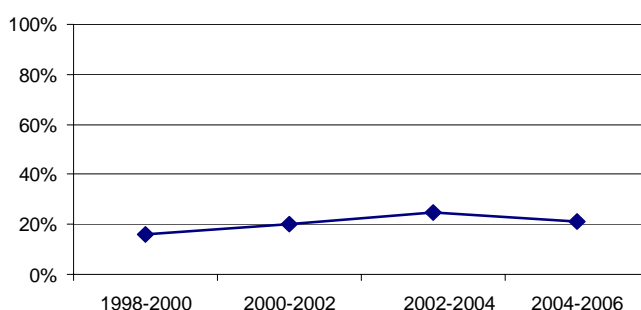
²⁷ The question on the mechanisms for monitoring illicit cultivation was first introduced in the biennial reports questionnaire for the second reporting period.

previous period) reported having systems to monitor and evaluate the qualitative and quantitative impact of programmes of alternative development and eradication of illicit crops (see figure XII). The apparent absence of monitoring systems can, in many cases, be owing to a lack of illicit cultivation or alternative development. However, the decline in the number of States responding positively to this question is cause for concern. Only 26 countries, down from 37 in the previous period, reported regularly assessing the impact of their law enforcement and alternative development measures.]]

43. Throughout the ten-year reporting period a number of States have reported lack of technical expertise and financial constraints as the reasons for not having monitoring and evaluation systems in place. In the last reporting period, Bolivia reported that it counted with a system for the monitoring of coca and other crops, agro-forestry and forest areas, but it lacked a system for the qualitative assessment of the results of alternative development programmes. Indonesia indicated that its alternative development programmes were new and had yet to be evaluated.

Figure XII

Systems of monitoring and evaluation of alternative development and eradication programmes, expressed as a percentage of reporting States



44. Among the States reporting that they possessed monitoring and evaluation systems, a number of States provided information on the indicators used to measure the impact of alternative development and crop eradication programmes. These included household income and access to services of families participating in alternative development, the number of women participating in the programmes, the number of organizations created and/or strengthened, the number of hectares of licit cultivation, the number of hectares of forest areas preserved and/or recovered, the number of hectares of illicit cultivation and the number of hectares eradicated. Other indicators cited included the levels of seizures of illicit drugs and drug-related arrests.

45. *Measuring the impact of alternative development.* Recent assessments of alternative development have recommended the use of socio-economic parameters to measure the impact and sustainability of alternative development.²⁸ The thematic debate in 2006 suggested that a mix of impact indicators was required which included measuring improvements in education, health, employment, environment and gender-related issues, institution-building and governmental capacity.²⁹

46. In a similar vein, a recent report on opium poppy cultivation in Afghanistan³⁰ noted that the success of drug control could not be measured only in terms of reduction in the hectares under drug crop cultivation, but that there was a need to assess the qualitative nature of any change in cropping patterns and livelihood strategies. The report argued that the analysis of the dynamics involved when households succeed in replacing the role that opium plays in their livelihoods

²⁸ E/2006/28, E/CN.7/2006/10, op. cit. p.35; UNODC (2005a), op. cit. p. 17, UNODC(2005b), op. cit p.11-12, OAS/CICAD op. cit. p 10

²⁹ E/2006/28, E/CN.7/2006/10 op. cit. p 35

³⁰ Mansfield, David *Beyond the Metrics: Understanding the Nature of Change in the Rural Livelihoods of Opium Poppy Growing Households in the 2006/07 Growing Season* (2007). Report commissioned by the Afghan Drugs Inter Departmental Unit of the United Kingdom Government, Executive Summary

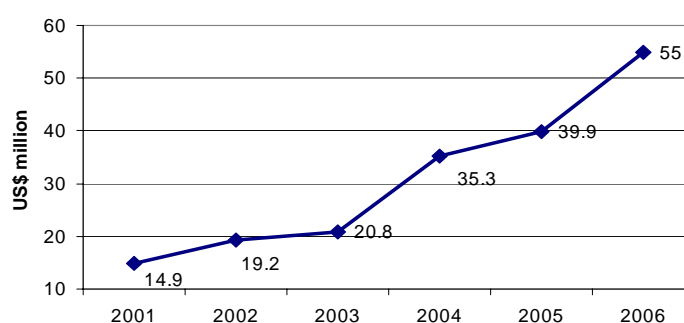
strategies would help understanding whether the shift was ‘part of a wider process of diversification of both crops and income, or simply a temporary response to a political imperative.’ Based on the results of research conducted in nine provinces, the report suggested that crop and income diversification (mainly related to shifts to high level horticulture) were taking place in various localities where market channels were functioning well. Also, due to the proximity of these localities to the provincial centre, they benefited from improved infrastructure such as roads and irrigation systems. The report also noted that these communities perceived eradication as a real threat what influenced their decisions to shift from opium poppy to other crops.

F. Improving the economic framework for alternative development

47. Throughout the ten-year reporting period a number of States reported on efforts to improve the economic framework for alternative development. Those included awareness-raising activities, promotion of community participation and inter-institutional coordination, establishment and strengthening of cooperative schemes and support to market-oriented production chains. Some States also reported on the promotion of product diversification and value-added products, trade brand and organic certification, participation in trade fairs and negotiations for preferential tariffs for alternative development products.

48. OAS/CICAD noted that if alternative development programs were to succeed, it was necessary to study the markets for their products.³¹ The economic performance of UNODC-supported farmers’ enterprises in Peru over the last years (see figure XIII) shows that adequate support with marketing activities is essential for the success of alternative development. Also, the Colombian Government initiative for the marketing of alternative development products as the “Products of Peace” and the increased involvement of the private sector in alternative development in Colombia are examples of innovative approaches that could be adapted to other contexts and countries.

Figure XIII
Sales of farm enterprises linked to UNODC in Peru, 2001-2006



49. Cognizant of the need to raise awareness about alternative development initiatives and to facilitate access of alternative development products to international markets, UNODC is also working in partnership with the Italian non-governmental organization San Patrignano for the marketing and sale in Italy of alternative development products. In September 2007, at San Patrignano’s food fair ‘Squisito’ cacao from Colombia, coffee from Peru and tea from Myanmar –all products of UNODC’s supported alternative development - were presented.

³¹ OAS/CICAD, Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and Alternative Development, (Compilation from MEM First, Second and Third Round Hemispheric Reports), (2007) p.5

III. Action by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

A. Global monitoring of illicit drug crops

50. *[[In 2006, UNODC continued to monitor the global illicit cultivation of coca bush and opium poppy within the framework of its Illicit Crop Monitoring Programme, with the implementation, in cooperation with the concerned Governments, of annual surveys in Afghanistan, Bolivia, Colombia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar and Peru. In addition, initial assessments of coca bush cultivation were conducted in Ecuador and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), with final results expected in early 2007. In 2006, UNODC also published the results of the third annual cannabis plant cultivation survey in Morocco.*
51. *In Afghanistan, in spite of security problems, UNODC strengthened its monitoring activities by also conducting yearly rapid assessment and monthly opium price-monitoring surveys. For the second consecutive year, UNODC was involved in verifying the eradication activities conducted by the Government of Afghanistan.*
52. *Following the significant reductions in opium poppy cultivation in the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar, UNODC has included questions on the impact of poppy elimination on the lives and livelihoods of the communities concerned in surveys of farmers' intentions. Improved socio-economic data and information on coping strategies are essential to design sustainable programmes to guide future development assistance.*
53. *A system similar to the monthly opium price monitoring index in Afghanistan was introduced in Andean States for coca and cocaine. An extensive yield survey was conducted in Colombia, which led to an adjustment of coca leaf yield estimates and coca leaf to coca paste conversion rates.]]*

B. Overview of alternative development initiatives

54. Over the ten-year reporting period, UNODC has continued to play a leading role in assisting Member States to address illicit crop cultivation within the framework of poverty reduction and sustainable development, and in accordance with General Assembly resolution S-20/4 E. Between 1998 and 2007 UNODC invested US\$133 million in alternative development programmes and projects in the countries most affected by illicit opium poppy and coca bush cultivation.
55. UNODC has also continued to promote the use of best practices, the sharing of experiences and to assist Member States in identifying and securing support for alternative development programmes. UNODC has also advocated the inclusion of counter-narcotics objectives into larger development plans and programmes, and continued its efforts to assist Member States in addressing cross-cutting issues including gender mainstreaming and environmental concerns.

1. Central and South-West Asia

56. *[[In 2006, Afghanistan made no progress in reducing illicit opium poppy cultivation, despite having received significant amounts of military and development assistance. Cultivation increased by 59 per cent, to 165,000 ha in 2006. An unprecedented 6,100 tons of opium were harvested, making Afghanistan virtually the sole global supplier. The total export value of illicit opium amounted to over US\$ 3 billion, which equalled roughly half of Afghanistan's gross domestic product in 2006 (\$6.7 billion). The number of people involved in opium poppy cultivation increased by almost a third, to 2.9 million or 12.6 per cent of the total population. Only 6 of the country's 34 provinces were opium-free. Social and political instability appeared to be significant factors driving cultivation, as cultivation fell in eight provinces situated in the more stable north.*
57. *In 2006, the Government of Afghanistan eradicated an estimated 15,300 ha of opium poppy or roughly 10 per cent of the area under cultivation, up from 5 per cent in 2005.*

58. *The proportion of external assistance allocated to the agriculture sector increased in 2005, yet accounted for only 18 per cent of the total assistance provided to Afghanistan. The expectations of farmers concerning credits, market assistance for substitute crops, irrigation and electricity have not been met and continue to be a principal concern for future development.]]*

59. In the last reporting period, UNODC continued to support the Government of Afghanistan with policy development, institution and capacity building for alternative livelihoods and illicit crop monitoring. In addition to the annual opium surveys, UNODC and the Ministry of Counter Narcotics (MCN) released the joint Opium Rapid Assessment Survey in early 2007. The survey assessed likely cultivation trends and provided a basis for the Afghan authorities to target their eradication efforts as well as to reward areas that are opium free through the Good Performance Initiative (GPI).

60. Another achievement was the setting up of a highly qualified network of alternative livelihood experts based with the MCN at both central and provincial levels (Badakhshan, Balkh, Herat, Kandahar and Nangarhar). The experts provide technical support to the MCN provincial offices with the establishment of a coordination mechanism and compilation of information on alternative livelihoods projects in their respective provinces. This support builds on the assistance provided with the alternative livelihoods donor database, which had been handed over to MCN in late 2005.

61. In 2007, UNODC conducted a series of training sessions aimed at improving the capacities of over 120 staff of the MCN and key line Ministries in six provinces to develop and assess alternative livelihoods programmes. Representatives of major agencies and non-governmental organizations involved in alternative livelihoods also participated in the training sessions which emphasized the need to strengthen cooperation between stakeholders in data collection, analysis, and common practices in monitoring and evaluation across stakeholders and sectors.

62. UNODC is currently reviewing its alternative livelihoods strategy in Afghanistan with a view to a more field-oriented approach in accordance with existing needs and priorities.

2. East and South-East Asia

63. *[[In South-East Asia, the area under illicit opium poppy cultivation was reduced by 85 per cent between 1998 and 2006. Illicit cultivation in Thailand and Viet Nam ceased to be significant more than a decade ago. In 2006, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, once the third largest illicit opium poppy producer in the world, cultivated approximately 2,500 ha, down from 26,900 ha in 1998.*

64. *[[In Myanmar, the area under opium poppy cultivation declined by 83 per cent, from 130,000 ha in 1998 to 21,500 ha in 2006. In 2006, however, favourable weather conditions, improved farming methods and sketchy development programmes led to a 54 per cent increase in opium yield per hectare, demonstrating how simple it is for a farmer to quickly revert back to illicit cultivation if all the components of a programme have not been introduced and implemented. As a consequence, the potential opium production stood almost unchanged at 315 tons in 2006 (312 tons in 2005).]]*

65. *[[In Myanmar, which is the second largest illicit opium producer in the world, 126,500 rural households that were previously dependent on opium poppy are currently experiencing the impact of food and fuel shortages. As a result of the decrease in poppy cultivation, many rural households have also lost access to health and education and have become vulnerable to uncivil behaviour, including human trafficking.]]*

66. Throughout the ten-year reporting period, UNODC continued to promote and support regional cooperation and exchange of information and expertise in alternative development and illicit crop monitoring in Southeast Asia. In 2007, a regional seminar provided a forum where representatives from China, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam shared experiences in

integrating alternative development activities into mainstream national development programming. UNODC also continued to facilitate the implementation of the Plan of Action of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and China Cooperative Operations in Response to Dangerous Drugs (ACCORD), which includes alternative development.

67. In response to a request by the Indonesian authorities, UNODC prepared a proposal for a survey of cannabis cultivation in the Province of Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam. The survey results will provide the Government of Indonesia and relevant development stakeholders with the necessary information to elaborate a comprehensive alternative development programme that should ultimately eliminate illicit cannabis cultivation in the Province.

68. In Myanmar, since 1998, UNODC's Wa alternative development project has worked with partners³² to mitigate the impact of opium eradication on local livelihoods, reaching some 40,000 people in Wa Special Region 2, Eastern Shan State. Efforts have centred in the sectors of health, education, basic infrastructure, community development, food security and alternative livelihoods. The results obtained were assessed and published in 2006 in the publication '*Reaching out to the Wa: Achievements in Mong Pawk District.*' In the 2006-2007 period, UNODC continued to support livelihoods activities including community rice bank, pig revolving system, vocational training, irrigation and feeder road maintenance, as well as adult literacy and primary health care.

69. UNODC also continued to spearhead the multilateral programme covering the Kokang and Wa regions through the Kokang and Wa Initiative (KOWI). KOWI partners include government departments, United Nations Organizations and national and international organizations. In 2007, the Government of Myanmar, UNODC and other United Nations agencies agreed on a framework for the transition from emergency relief to sustainable development in the Wa region covering the 2008-2011 period. In view of UNODC's extensive experience in the region, it is envisaged that within the new framework, UNODC would serve as coordinator and adviser to the relevant authorities and specialized United Nations agencies.

70. In Lao People's Democratic Republic UNODC has been supporting alternative development interventions in the country since the early 1990s. UNODC's assistance has focused on basic health care, treatment and rehabilitation of opium addicts, essential infrastructure such as small-scale irrigation, feeder roads, food security and alternative livelihoods activities. Sustaining the reductions achieved in opium poppy cultivation and preventing its resurgence remains a priority for the Government and UNODC. In order to achieve this goal, it is crucial that former opium growers are lifted out of extreme poverty.

71. In the 2006-2007 reporting period, UNODC in partnership with other United Nations agencies and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) continued to provide alternative development assistance in the provinces of Phongsaly, Houaphan and Oudomxay. UNODC's Programme Facilitation Unit (PFU) supported the implementation of the National Drug Programme Strategy. The PFU is also mapping the 1,100 poorest former opium-poppy cultivating villages targeted by the action plan for the post opium scenario in order to identify development partners and gaps in support.

72. In 2007, cognizant of the need to support both the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar in their counter narcotics and poverty reduction efforts, UNODC launched the 'Global Partnership on Alternative Development' project. The project will increase the capacities of relevant national authorities, technical staff and key development actors to mainstream alternative development objectives into broader development plans and programmes.

³² Aide Medical International, Malteser International and World Food Programme

3. Andean region

73. In Bolivia, Colombia and Peru, the involvement of small farmers in illicit coca bush cultivation continued to be linked to poverty, insecurity and exclusion from mainstream society. The per capita income from coca cultivation in 2005 was lower than the GDP per capita in the three countries (see Table 2).

Table II
Farm-gate value and per capita income from coca ³³

	Potential farm-gate value of coca products 2005 (million US\$)	No. of households involved in coca cultivation ³⁴	Per capita income from coca (US\$)	GDP per capita (US\$)
Bolivia	180	40,000	900	974 ³⁵
Colombia	843	68,600	2,500	2,700 ³⁶
Peru	307	50,000	1,200	2,490 ³⁵

74. In Colombia, coca cultivation declined significantly (52 per cent) from the last peak estimate of 163,000 ha in 2000 to 78,000 ha in 2006, which represents the lowest level in ten years. Colombia remains the largest coca bush-growing country in the world, accounting for 50 per cent of the total, down from 54 per cent in 2005. At the end of 2006, coca bush was cultivated in 23 of Colombia's 32 departments. The Government of Colombia reported record levels of eradication in 2006: over 200,000 ha of combined aerial spraying and manual eradication.

75. In the 2006-2007 period, UNODC continued to assist the Government of Colombia within the framework of its Alternative Development Plan. The focus of the UNODC-supported alternative development programme has been poverty alleviation through environmental conservation, sustainable productive management of strategic ecosystems and support for the marketing of alternative development products.

76. The UNODC-supported alternative development intervention in the departments of Meta and Caqueta, initiated in 1999 was completed in 2007. The project results have received national and international recognition and are considered an example of good practices by the Colombian Government. A total of 367 families and four farmers' organizations benefited from technical and managerial support for productive activities including the production and marketing of organic coffee, cocoa and honey. The organic honey is now marketed through a large supermarket chain in Colombia and in the *Café la Tienda de la Paz* at the UNODC Office in Bogota. In 2006, 55.5 tones of coffee and 1.1 tons of organic coffee were marketed in Europe, Japan and United States and 3.8 tons of cocoa were certified as an organic product. The project also addressed environmental and health protection by supporting the construction of sanitary units, solid waste processors and water purification systems.

77. In 2007, UNODC started implementing phase II of the *Monte Bravo* initiative in coordination with the Social Action Plan of the Presidency of Colombia. This new phase builds on the results obtained earlier by the UNODC/Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) project in the Pacific Coast region of Nariño. Phase II enlarges the scope of work aimed at the rational exploitation of natural forest resources in the departments of Nariño, El Choco and Norte de Santander and will continue close partnerships with farmers and indigenous groups, as well as community councils. The project's Phase I (2004-2006) improved the lives of 433 families through forest management, agro-forestry and food security activities. Community councils were

³³ UNODC, *Coca Cultivation in the Andean Region – A survey of Bolivia, Colombia and Peru*, (June 2006), p. 16

³⁴ Estimates for Bolivia and Peru are derived from the average field size per household. The estimate for Colombia is based on field research.

³⁵ 2004 GDP for Bolivia and Peru, World Bank

³⁶ 2005 GDP for Colombia, National Department of Statistics, Colombia

strengthened and women's associations created. Three forest management plans secured over 22,000 hectares free of coca plantations and the rehabilitation of 396 ha of cacao crops.

78. In 2007, UNODC also launched a new initiative in the Antioquia Department, which is the first of its kind to receive a substantial financial contribution from a departmental government. The project will strengthen the productive capacities of at least 200 families and community enterprises in the municipalities of Anorí and Briceño through support to agro-forestry including coffee and cocoa, as substitutes to illicit coca crop cultivation. The initiative will also identify areas that would possibly qualify for the Clean Development Mechanism under the Kyoto Protocol.

79. In the fifth reporting period, UNODC continued to monitor achievements with respect to voluntary eradication, forest recovery and socio-economic development of the Colombian Government Forest Warden Families Programme. The main objective of the Programme is to recover and protect ecosystems affected by illicit crops, while promoting the sustainable use of natural resources. UNODC also provided the Government of Colombia with a Geographic Information System (GIS) on villages in various municipalities, which will facilitate the implementation of alternative development projects.

80. In 2006, Peru continued as the second largest coca producer after Colombia. Peru accounted for 33 per cent of the global area under cultivation, with 51,400 ha (up from 48,200 in 2005, a seven per cent increase). Since the lowest level of 38,700 ha in 1999, the area under coca cultivation in Peru has increased by one third, but remains well below the record level of 120,000 ha of the early 1990s.

81. In Peru, UNODC-supported alternative development continued to help farmers to implement modern management practices, meet international quality control and environmental protection standards, and open new national and export markets for their products. UNODC monitors on a yearly basis the commercial performance of the farm enterprises supported under its projects. The 2006 survey focused on 13 businesses benefiting 18,426 families that are receiving, or have at one

The overwhelming majority of Peruvian coca growers, when given an opportunity to switch from coca to sustainable livelihoods, will do so even though family incomes drop in the early years. This is so because alternative development reduces chronic poverty, violence and corruption and promotes better health, education and social inclusion into the national market economy. Equally important, farmers know that the value of their land goes up significantly when planted with legal and marketable crops. This gives them access to credits to finance business expansion. In 2006, virtually all farm enterprises linked to UNODC received commercial credits. Source: Aldo Lale-Demoz, UNODC Representative (2007)

point received, UNODC technical assistance to develop modern and commercially viable legal enterprises. The sales of these farm enterprises covering products such as coffee, cacao, palm heart and palm oil reached US\$ 55 million in 2006, a 38 per cent increase over 2005 (see Table 1 above). Some 90 per cent of the sales were made in Europe, North America, Asia and Australia. The average legal annual sales per family was about US\$ 3,000, although in more mature farm enterprises average annual sales were above US\$ 8,500 per family. As a basis for comparison, the average annual income of a family cultivating coca for the international illicit drug trade is estimated at US\$ 3,750.

82. Other selected results in the 2006-2007 period include 32 communities (280 families) benefiting from rubber production in the Pichis-Palcazu area and 28,000 hectares of preserved forest. In the Aguaytia and Tulumayo River Basin, where ecosystems have been degraded by coca cultivation, areas for agro-forestry and reforestation and participating farmers were identified and a Native Forestry Association to manage 10,000 hectares of forest was established. In 2007, a new forest management and agro-forestry initiative in the Pichis, Palcazu and Pachitea valleys was initiated which will benefit 1,045 families. In Tocache, San Martin, 4,880 ha of oil palm trees will be installed thanks to the support of PRODATU project (Alternative Development in Tocache Uchiza GTZ-KFW) and USAID.

83. In Bolivia, 27,500 ha of coca bush were cultivated in 2006, compared with 25,400 ha in 2005 (an eight per cent increase)³⁷. This increase offsets the decline in cultivation between 2004 and 2005. In the last years, the area under coca cultivation in Bolivia remained lower than in the early and mid-1990s when coca was grown on over 45,000 ha. In 2006, Bolivia accounted for 18 per cent of the global area under coca cultivation, remaining the third largest coca producing country, after Colombia and Peru.

84. Throughout the ten-year reporting period the focus of UNODC's alternative development programme in Bolivia was poverty alleviation through income-generation activities and environmental protection. In the Tropics of Cochabamba, the manifold experiences over more than 20 years have identified viable products. UNODC is investing in the sustainable management of forest resources and the marketing of wood products, which have proven a viable and ecologically sustainable option, which needs to be expanded to other areas.

85. Between 1997 and 2005, UNODC in partnership with FAO and other stakeholders and through the *Jatun Sach'a* project reached over 10,000 households with support for sustainable forest management activities covering over 200,000 ha and agro-forestry activities covering 9,500 ha. In 2006, building on the achievements and experiences of the *Jatun Sach'a* project, a new four-year phase of the agro-forestry programme was launched, which will benefit 4,500 families in the Cochabamba Tropics and the Yungas of La Paz. In La Asunta municipality, for example, the project succeeded in expanding the area cultivated with coffee crops and in exporting the coffee harvest to Germany. Productive activities continue to be carried out through producer unions, indigenous and women's associations.

86. In the fifth reporting period, UNODC-supported activities in the areas of vocational training and micro enterprises development continued to generate employment and livelihood opportunities for young people in the Cochabamba Tropics, thus making them less dependent on coca cultivation. Since the project's inception in 2001, UNODC in partnership with the International Labour Organization and 264 local educational institutions and municipalities has benefited over 22,200 young people (gender parity close to 50 per cent) with over 1,000 vocational training courses ranging from agriculture to computer science and business administration. The project has also supported the setting up of 90 new micro-enterprises and the strengthening of 122 existing ones, which employed over 2,000 individuals. The project continued to transfer capabilities for the inclusion of the training modules developed in the regional school curricula.

87. In 2007, a similar initiative was launched in the Yungas of La Paz. The new project will build on the positive results and experience acquired in the Cochabamba Tropics with a particular focus in the fields of agriculture, food industry and tourism. The project aims at reaching 3,400 young women and men with vocational training and support at least 40 micro enterprises.

4. North Africa

88. Since 2003 UNODC has supported the Government of Morocco with cannabis plant cultivation surveys. The results of the 2005 survey published in January 2007 showed a 40 per cent decline in the area under cannabis plant cultivation, from 120,500 ha in 2004 to 72,500 ha in 2005. The survey indicated that 89,900 households had been involved in cannabis plant cultivation in 2005.

89. In 2005, the Government of Morocco approved a comprehensive National Drug Control Strategy. With respect to cannabis cultivation, the objective is its total elimination while ensuring adequate livelihoods from legal sources of income for the affected farmers. The Government has opted for a phased approach that prioritizes the eradication of cannabis in two provinces namely, Larache and Taounate. The former was declared cannabis free in 2006 and the latter to follow in 2007. The Government of Morocco has requested UNODC's assistance with strategic and programmatic advisory services for alternative development. UNODC

³⁷ This figure includes 12,000 ha permitted for traditional use such as leaf-chewing, medicinal preparations and coca tea by Bolivian Law No. 1008 of 19 July 1988.

is currently developing a plan of action in this respect, initially for the provinces of Larache and Tounate.

IV. Conclusion

[[Insert Text]]