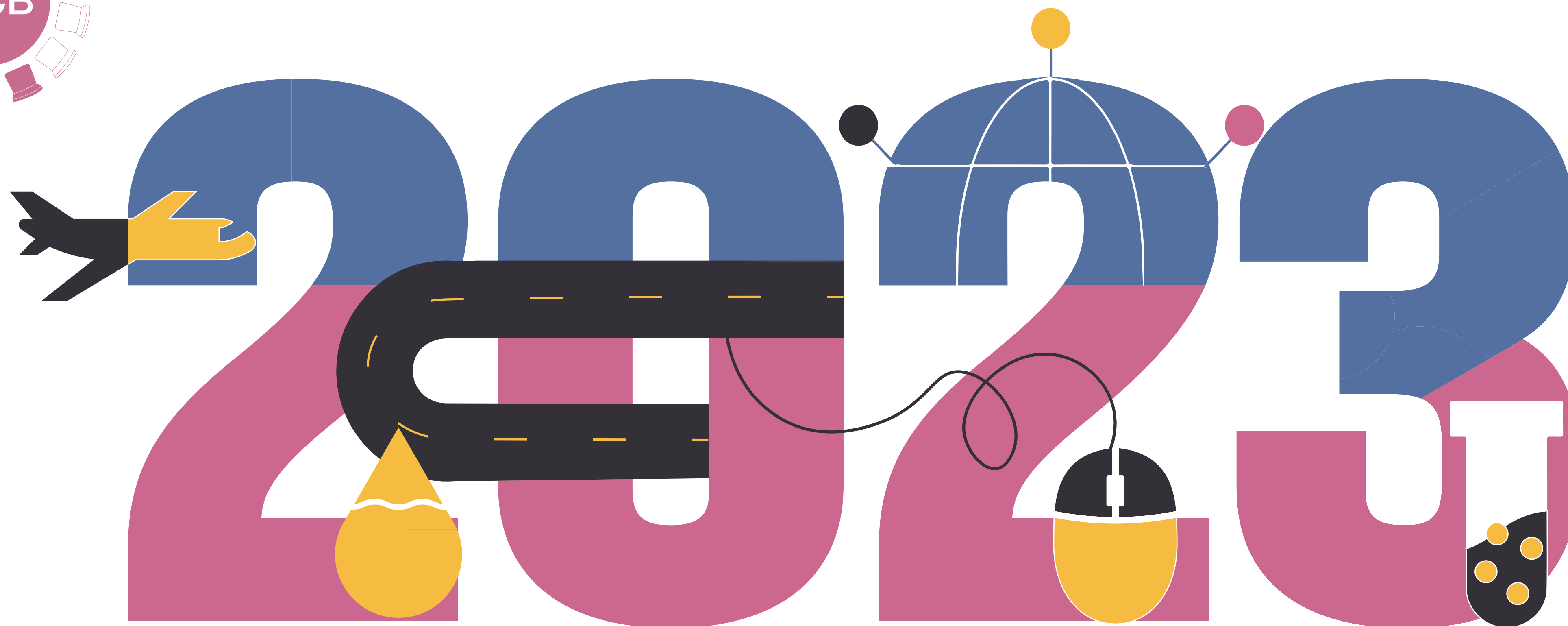




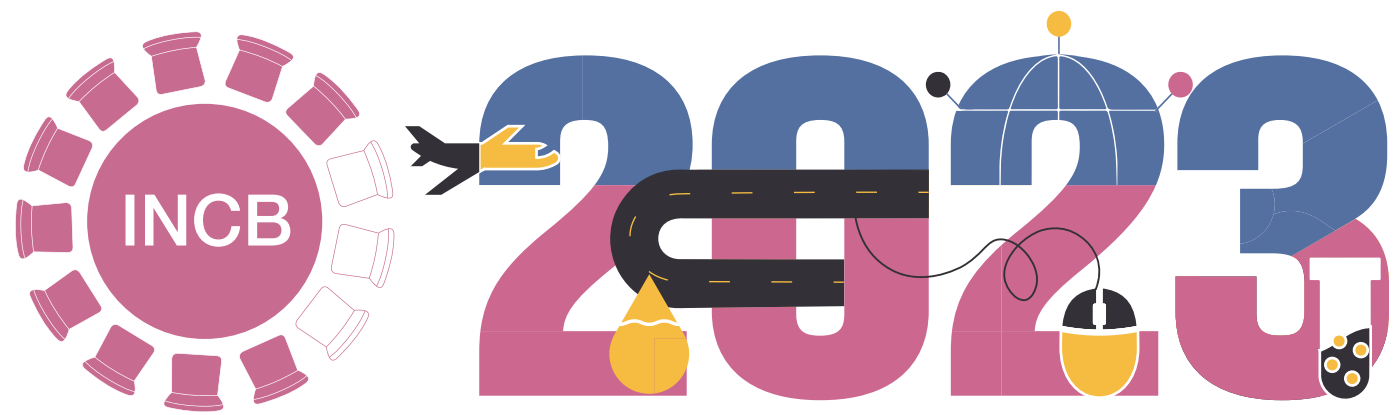
Read the full report [here](#) >>>



# PRECURSORS

and chemicals frequently used  
in the illicit manufacture of narcotic  
drugs and psychotropic substances

INCB PRECURSORS REPORT - ILLUSTRATED SUMMARY



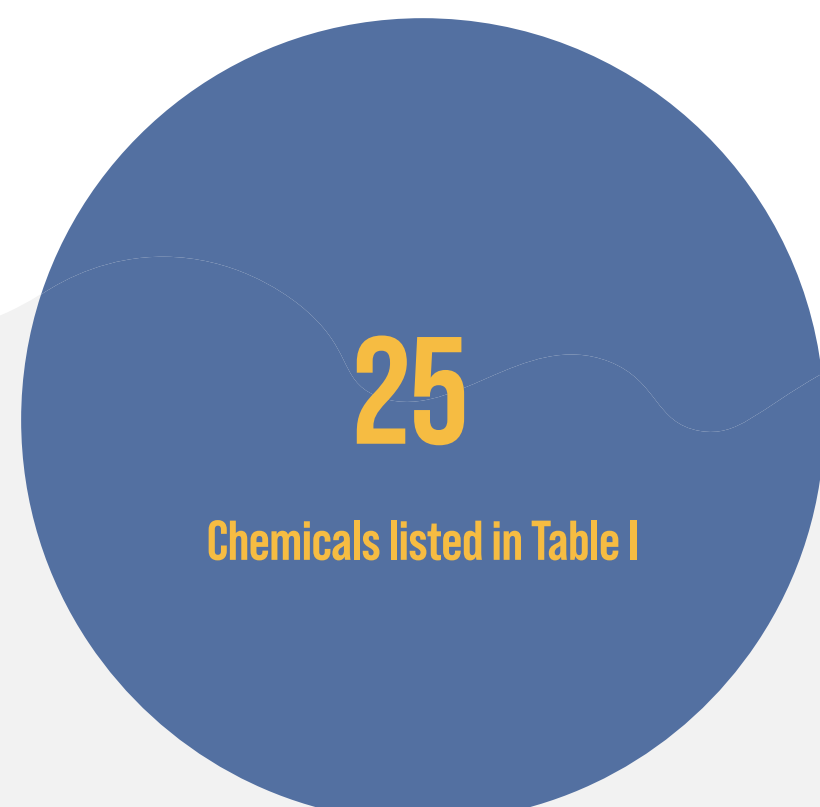
# PRECURSOR CHEMICALS OVERVIEW

## INTERNATIONALLY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES

# 33

### PRECURSOR CHEMICALS

under international control as of December 2023



Chemicals listed in Table I

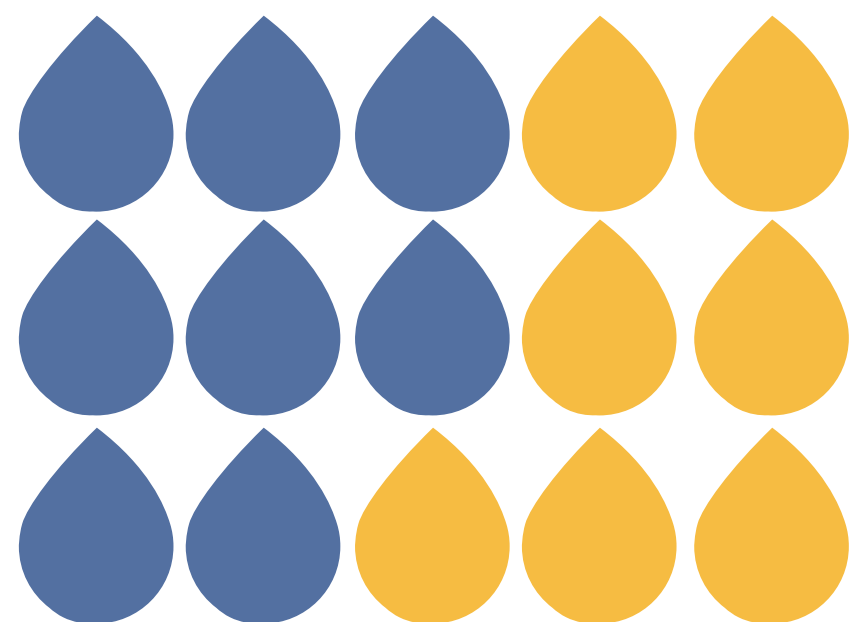


Chemicals listed in Table II

## INCB'S SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

# 16

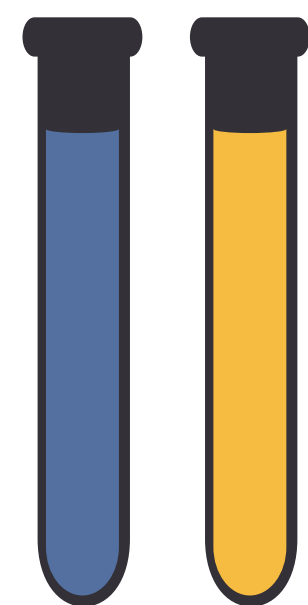
Precursors of  
**AMPHETAMINE-TYPE STIMULANTS**



P-2-P methyl glycidic acid & 8 close chemical relatives  
7 close chemical relatives of 3,4-MDP-2-P methyl glycidic acid\*

# 2

Precursors of  
**FENTANYL**



4-piperidone  
1-boc-4-piperidone

## SEIZURES AND INCIDENTS

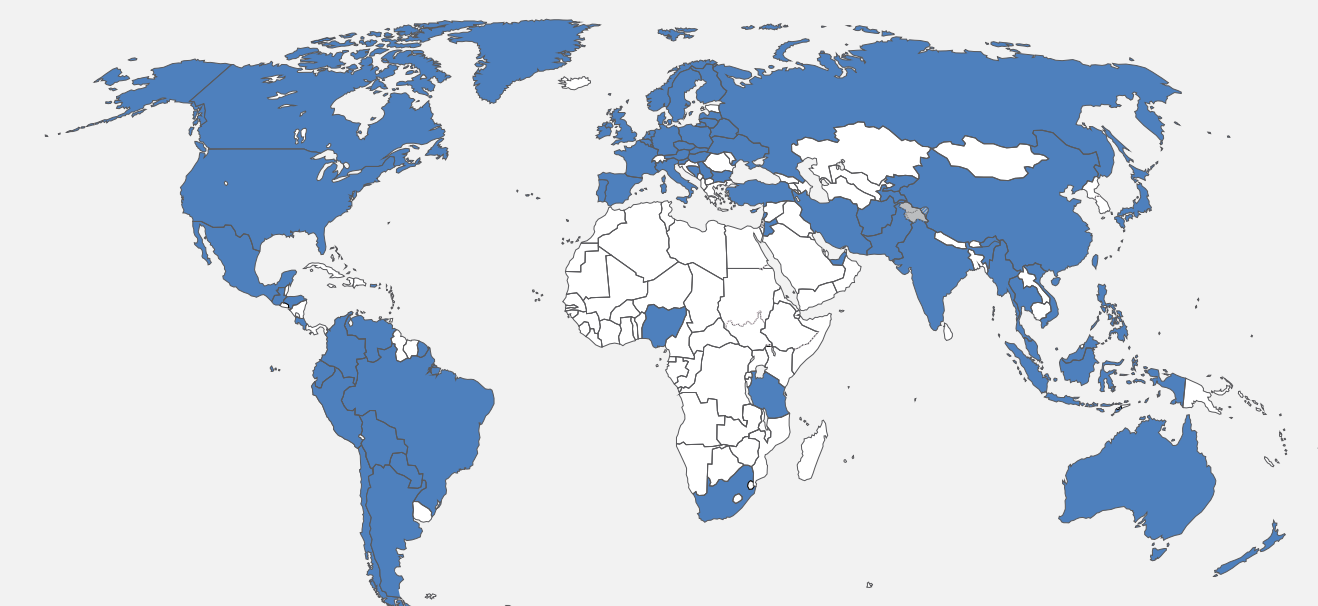
# 500

**INCIDENTS** communicated through INCB's Precursors' Incident Communication System (PICS)



# 70

**COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES** across **ALL 5 CONTINENTS** have now reported seizures of substances not included in the two tables of the 1988 Convention



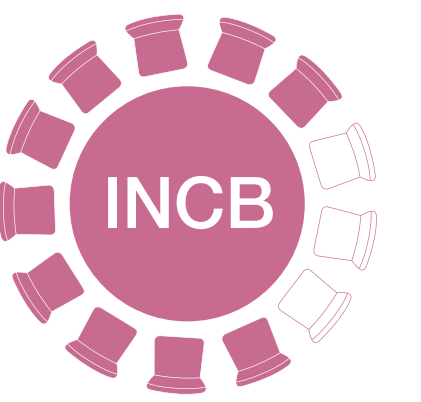
# ISSL

The majority of designer precursors that have emerged recently, had been included in **INCB'S LIMITED INTERNATIONAL SPECIAL SURVEILLANCE LIST**



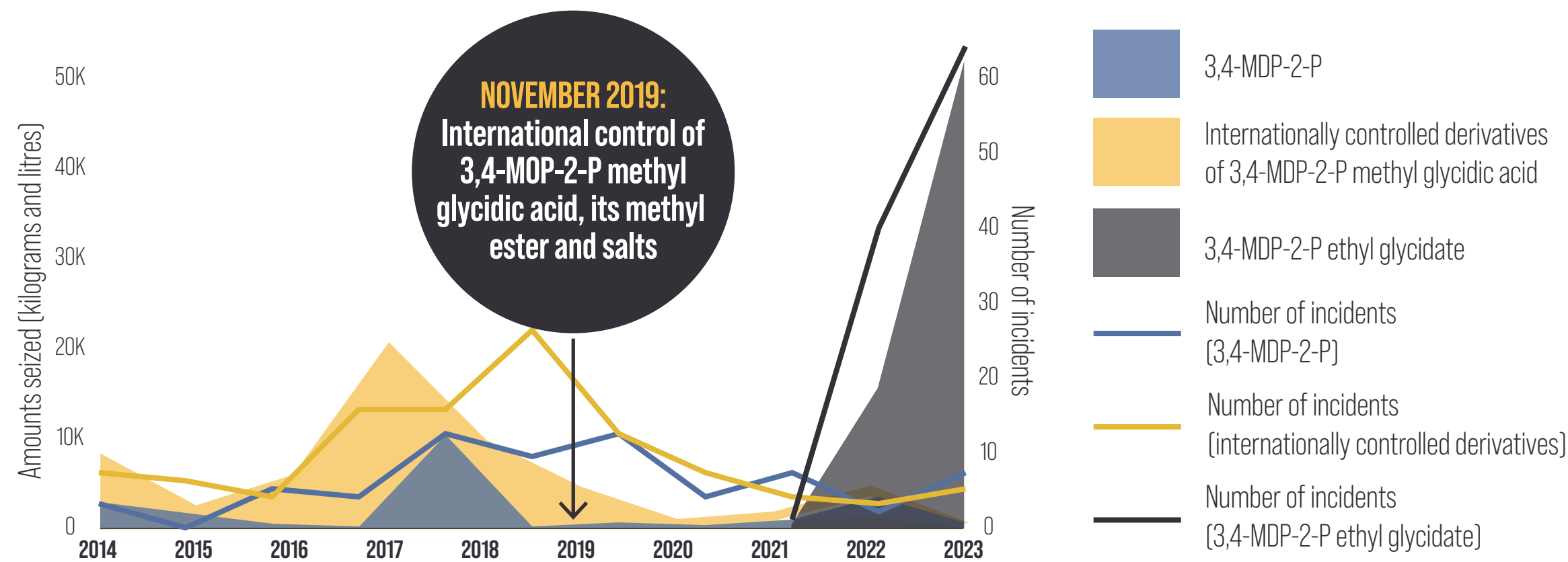
\*which is already under international control

# DATA USED TO SUPPORT THE 2023 SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATIONS

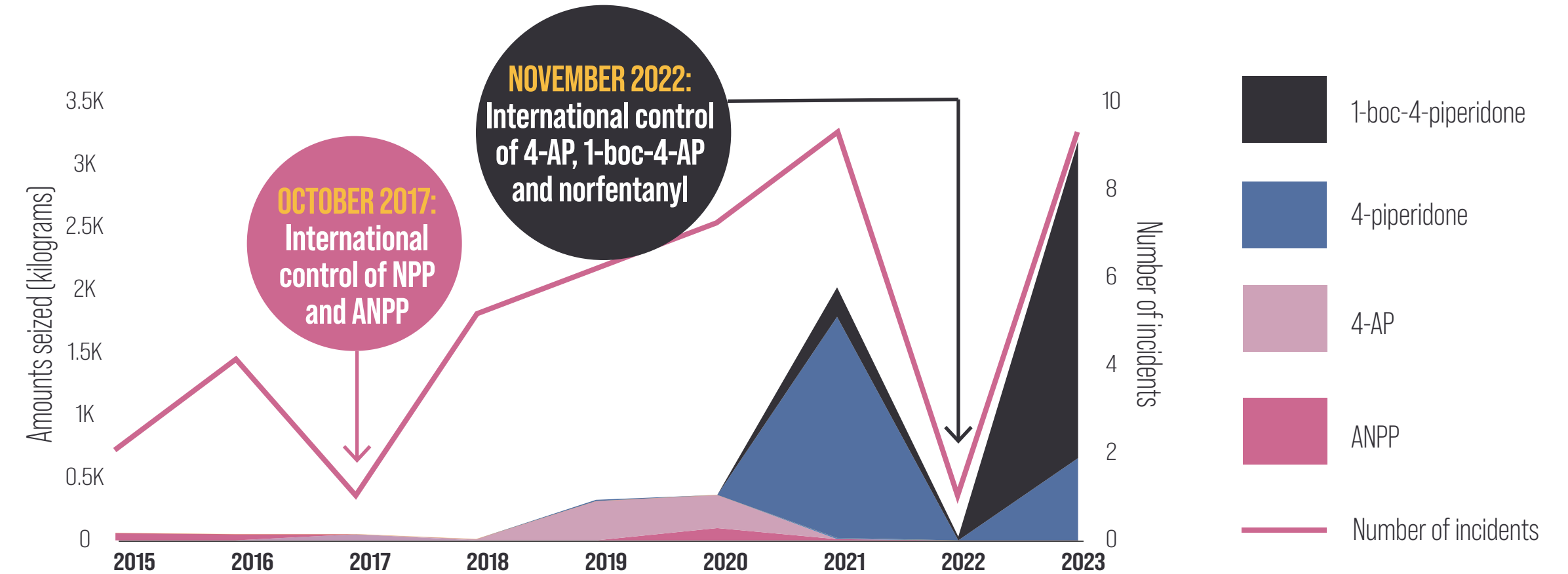


## ANALYSIS OF DATA ON PRECURSORS

The data show that, when a substance is scheduled internationally, traffickers often move to close relatives or pre-precursors. INCB data sources include Form D and PICS.



Incidents related to MDMA ("ecstasy") precursors communicated through PICS



Incidents related to fentanyl precursors communicated through PICS

## OPERATION BACK-UP

**39** COUNTRIES and territories and **3** INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS participated to Operation Back-up.



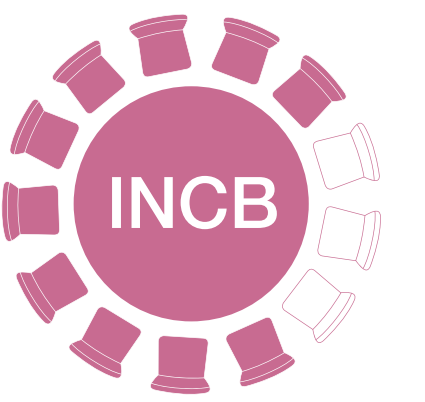
**34** INCIDENTS communicated through INCB's Precursors' Incident Communication System (PICS).

## QUESTIONNAIRES SENT TO GOVERNMENTS

**+/-60** COUNTRIES replied to the four questionnaires sent to governments. This number is within the average number of replies to questionnaires on scheduling.



# 2023 TRENDS IN SEIZURES



## COCAINE PRECURSORS

### NOTABLE SEIZURES OF COCAINE PRECURSORS

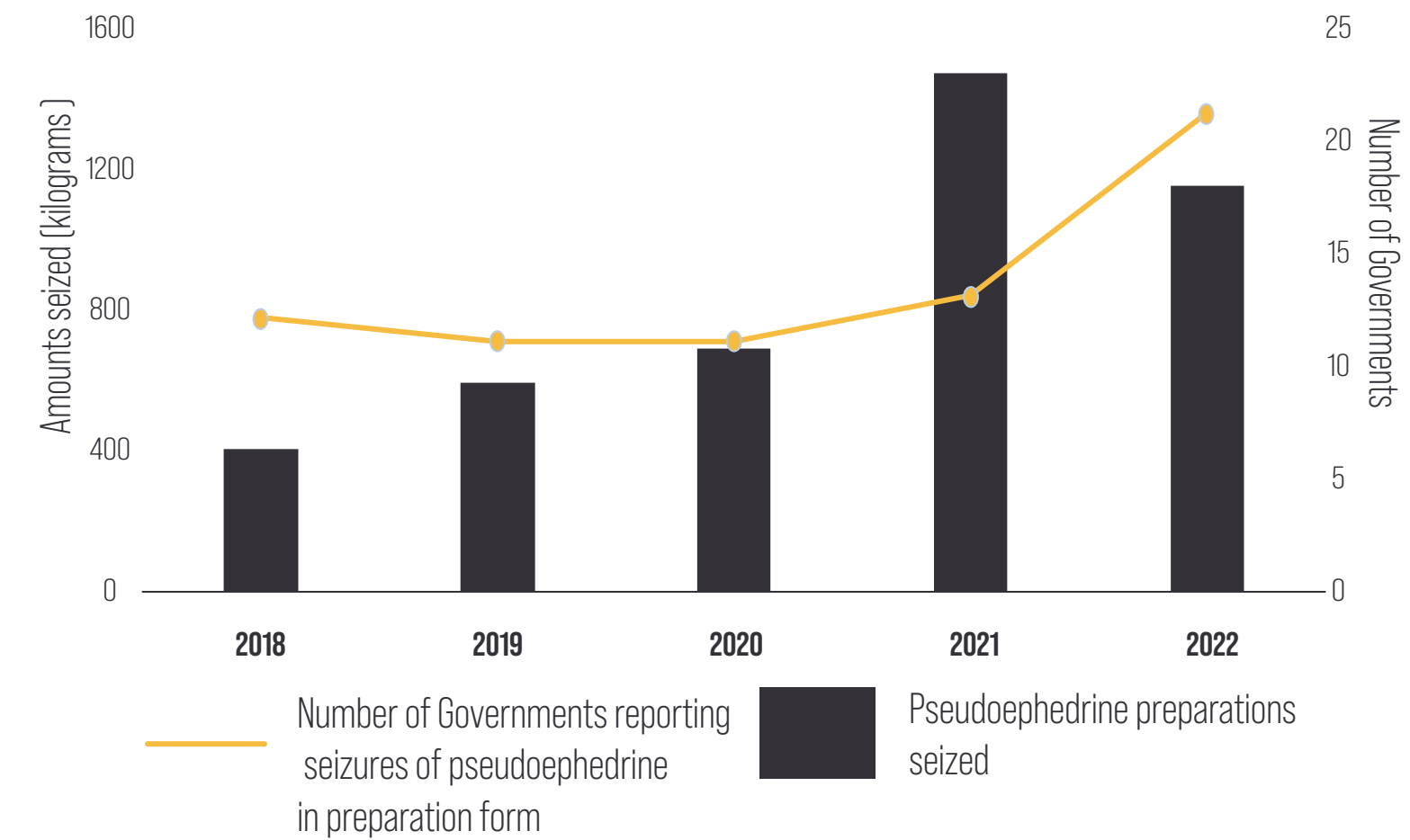
and dismantling of cocaine extraction laboratories in Europe reflect a trend towards greater sophistication and process optimization



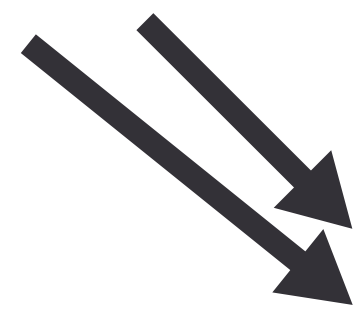
## AMPHETAMINE-TYPE STIMULANTS PRECURSORS

21

**COUNTRIES** reported seizures of preparations containing pseudoephedrine, the **LARGEST NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN 10 YEARS.**

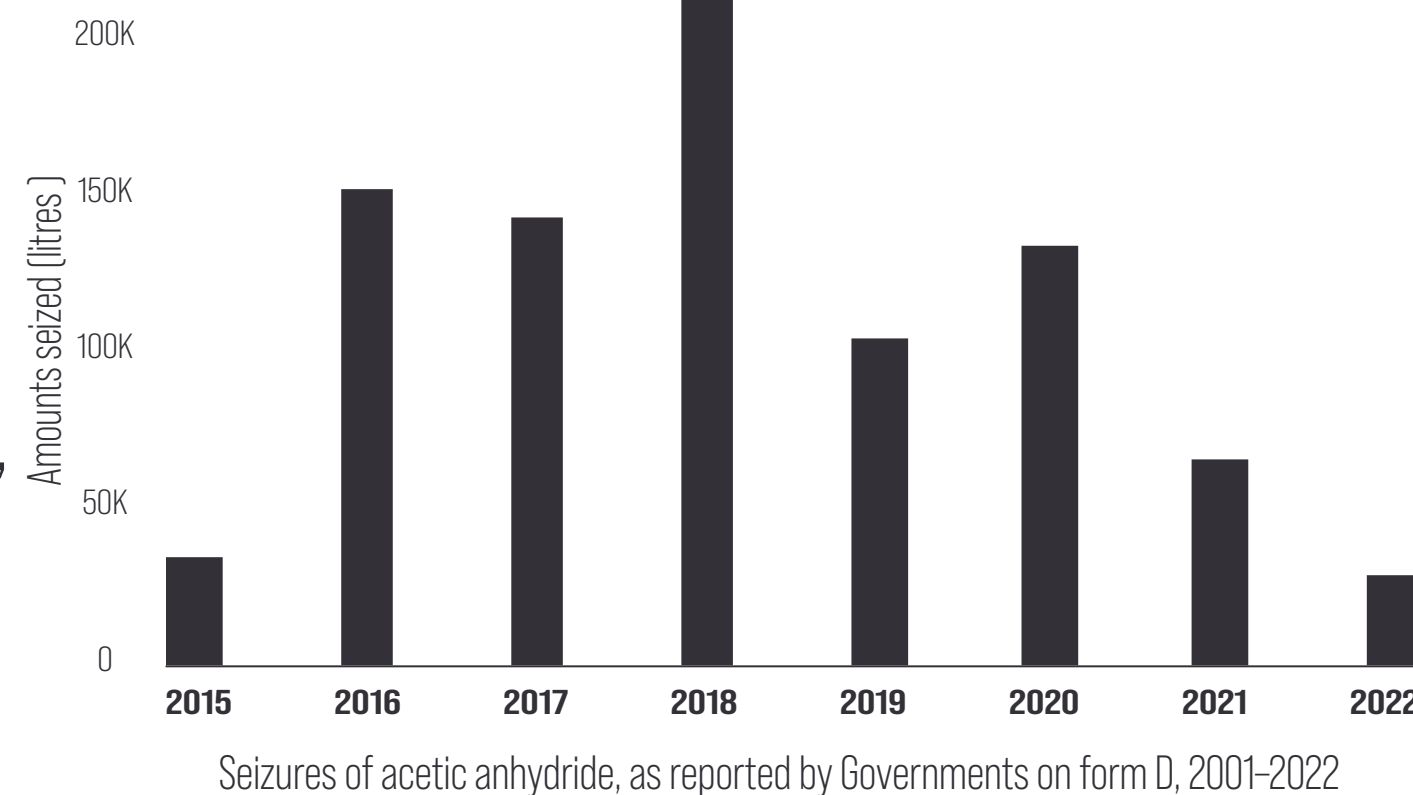


## HEROIN PRECURSORS

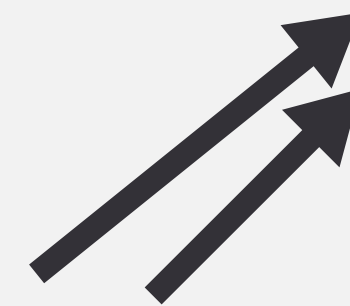


### CONTINUED DECLINE IN SEIZURES

of key heroin precursor, acetic anhydride since 2018.



## FENTANYL PRECURSORS



**SURGE IN SEIZURES** of non-scheduled fentanyl precursors in North America



# 2023 INTERNET TRENDS



## THE USE OF THE INTERNET

(the surface web) to facilitate trafficking in precursors continued to be noted in 2023.

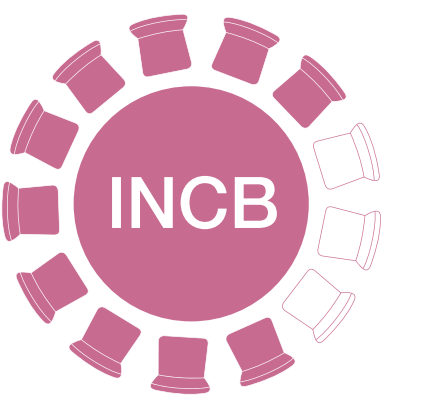
In response, the Board took steps to support Governments in this area by providing a

**TRAINING WORKSHOP TO OFFICIALS**

**FROM FOUR CONTINENTS** on the investigation of suspicious postings on the Internet regarding precursors

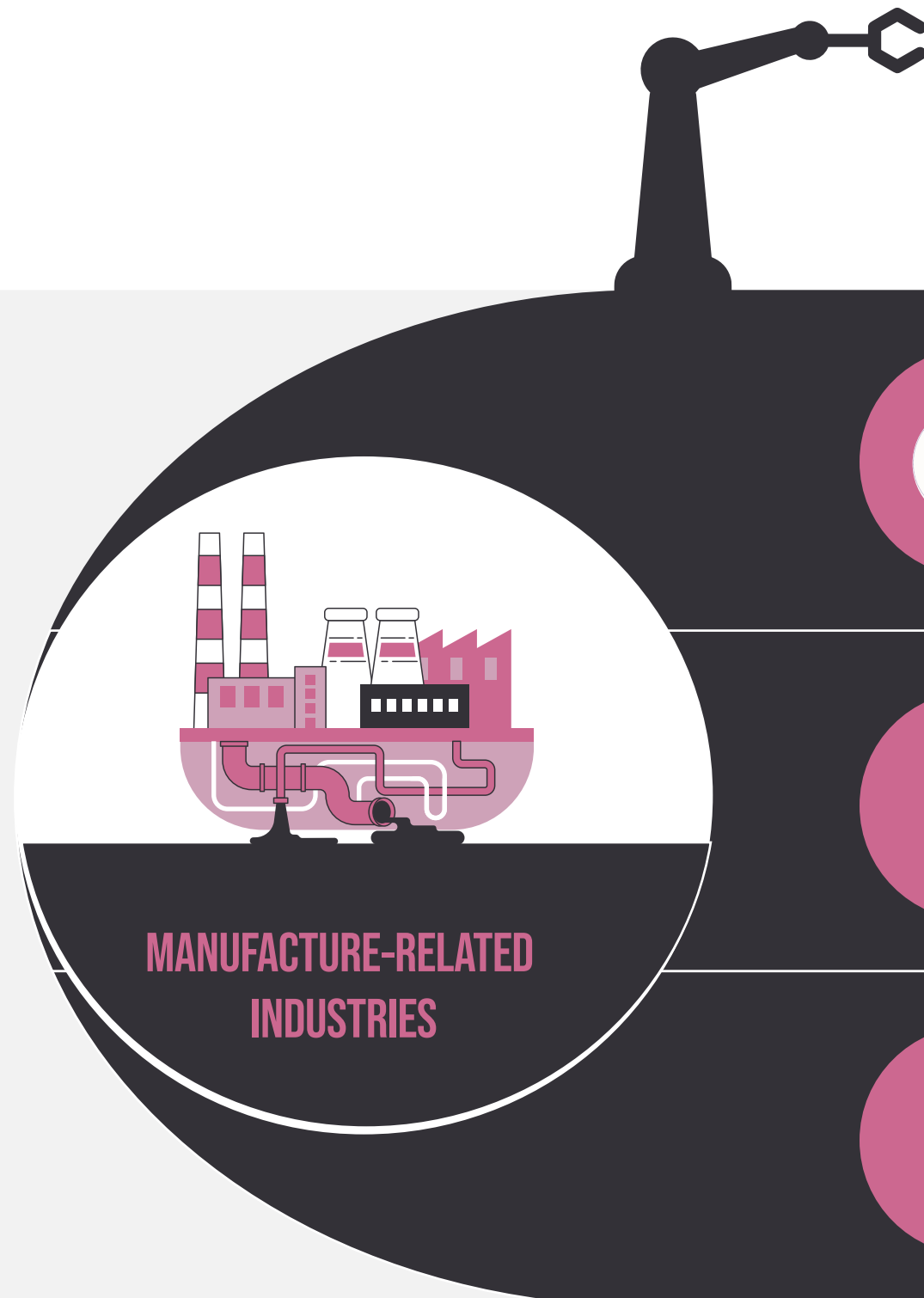


# A CALL FOR PRECURSOR **INDUSTRY MAPPING**



One of the most important elements of successful industry cooperation is **KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE RANGE OF INDUSTRIES** that deal with the chemicals used for illicit drug manufacture and thus might – often unknowingly – be targeted by traffickers.

The presence of those industries, however, differs in each country. INCB therefore encourages Governments to **MAP THEIR NATIONAL INDUSTRY LANDSCAPE** with the aim of identifying the categories of industries available and raising awareness among industries that are likely to be susceptible to diversion.



Pharmaceutical industry



Large-scale producers of commodity chemicals



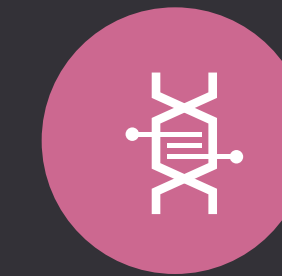
Research and development service providers



Active pharmaceutical ingredients producers



Producers of fine and specialty chemicals



Toll manufacturers and contract manufacturers



Laboratory chemicals suppliers



Chemical distributors

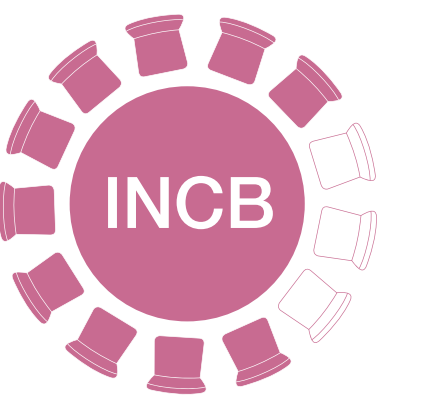


Exporters and importers



Industrial parks and industrial estates

# VULNERABILITY OF FREE-TRADE-ZONES FOR TRAFFICKING IN PRECURSORS



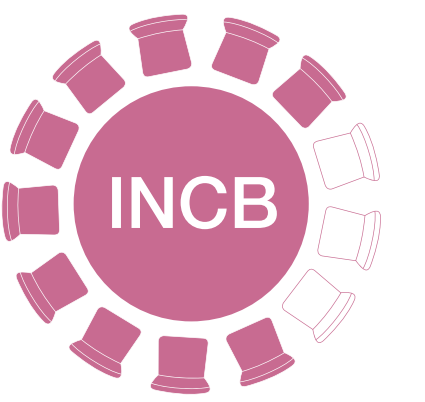
**LIMITED SUPERVISION AND CONTROLS** over goods entering and leaving free-trade-zones (FTZs).



## 2023 THEMATIC CHAPTER: CONFLICT ZONES

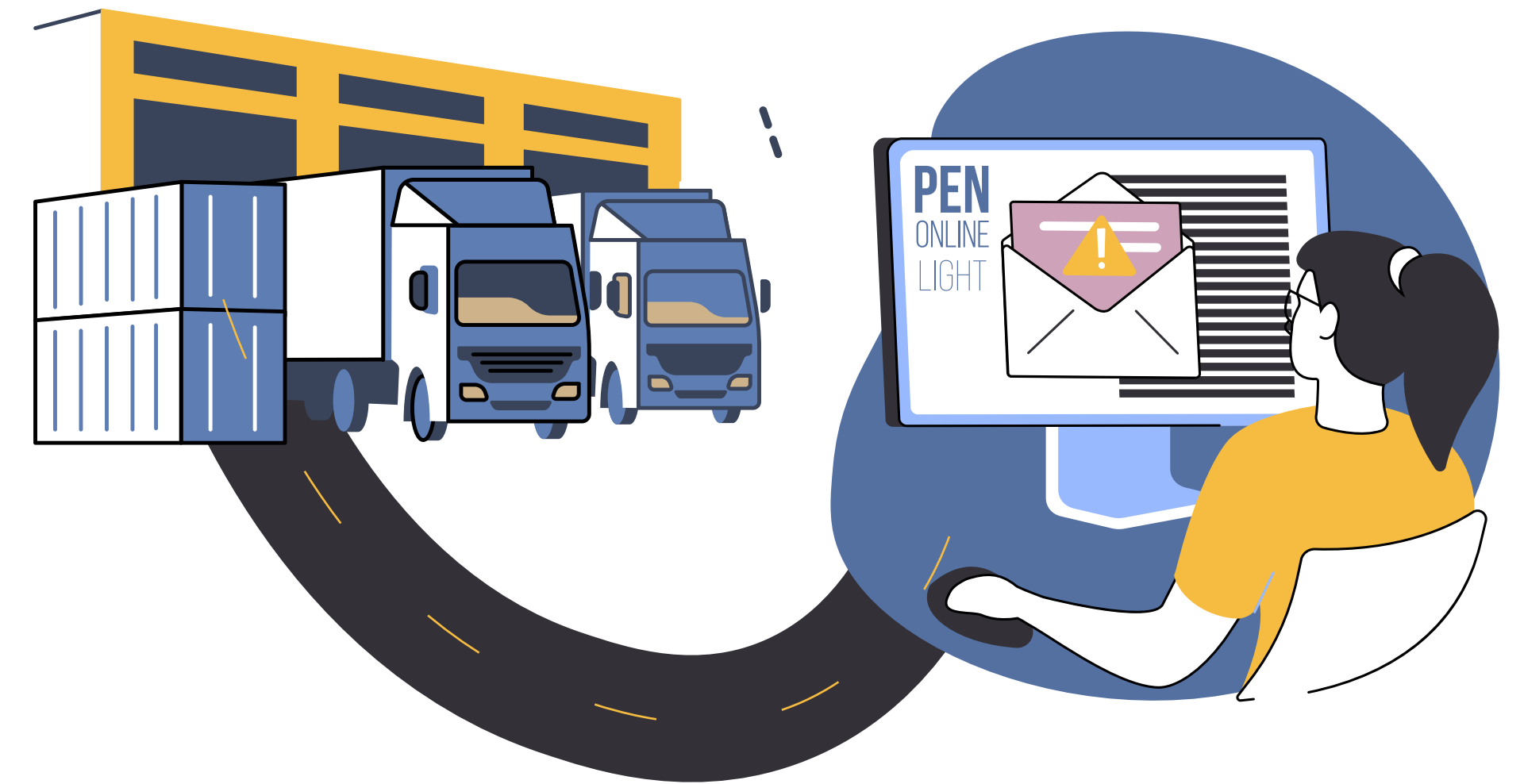


This year's report presents examples of challenges for precursor control due to conflict or unresolved territorial disputes.



# TOOLS AND RESOURCES ADDRESS THE PROLIFERATION OF NON-SCHEDULED CHEMICALS

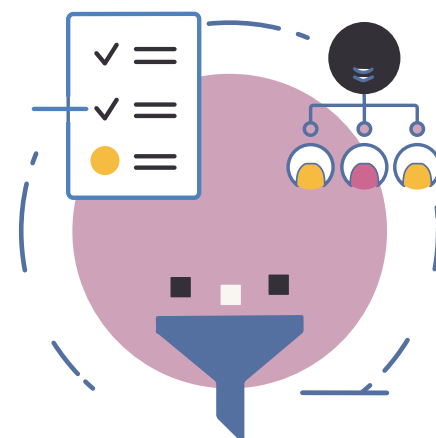
Launched in October 2022, **PEN ONLINE LIGHT** is a tool that exporting Governments can use to notify importing countries about planned shipments of internationally non-scheduled chemicals on a voluntary basis.



## OTHER TOOLS



INCB guidance document on non-scheduled chemicals



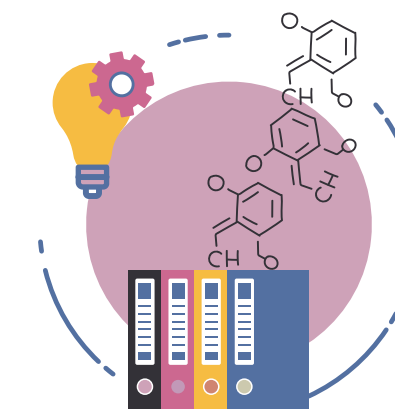
International Special Surveillance List (ISSL) and chemicals under national control (Table 4)



Industry guidelines package



Precursors Incident Communication System (PICS)



Precursor Chemical Monographs 2020

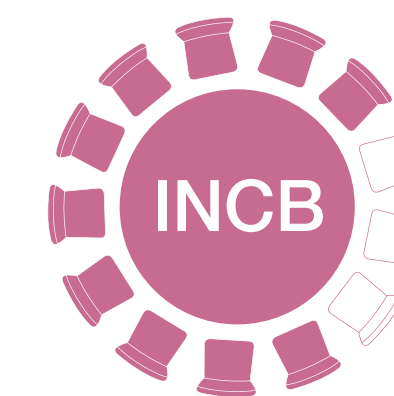


Precursors Module of the UN Toolkit on Synthetic Drugs





# RECOMMENDATIONS TO GOVERNMENTS



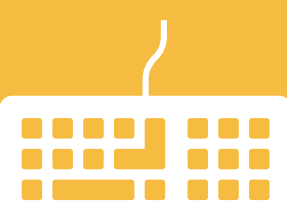
- 1. Make **MONITORING AND INVESTIGATION OF THE INTERNET** an inherent part of the national precursor control mechanisms



- 2. Ensure that regulations and procedures put in place for **FREE-TRADE ZONES** are no less stringent than those applied in other parts of the national territory



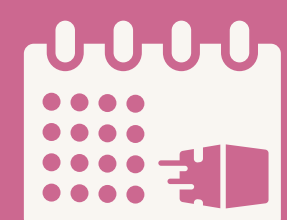
- 3. **MAP THE NATIONAL PRECURSOR INDUSTRY LANDSCAPE** to raise awareness among all relevant industries



- 4. Make use of **PEN ONLINE** and **PEN ONLINE LIGHT**, and other INCB tools for non-scheduled and scheduled precursors.



- 5. Expand the **USE OF PICS** for sharing more incidents related to precursors and equipment on a real-time basis and include actionable information



- 6. Report to INCB the data mandated by the 1988 Convention latest **BY 30 OF JUNE EVERY YEAR**