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**SECURITY AND DRUG TRAFFICKING
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GUATEMALA**



SECURITY AND DRUG TRAFFICKING



OVERVIEW

Central America has always been under observation by foreign activists due to the fact that it is one of the regions that has been affected by a series of illicit activities together with the violence generated by them and the tentacles the corruption has reached in some state institutions.

The illicit enrichment generated by drug trafficking reaches high levels, which allows for the recruitment of any person, regardless of social or political stratum.

- Central America became a focus of interest for the trafficking of drugs for South American and Mexican cartels; due to its geographical position and the porosity of its borders, thus becoming a natural bridge between North and South America.
- The drug cartels that have influenced the region are those of the Gulf and the Pacific (formerly known as The Sinaloa Cartel). Since 2008, there is record of the incursion of Los Zetas who positioned and took control of certain areas, thus evicting some local structures.

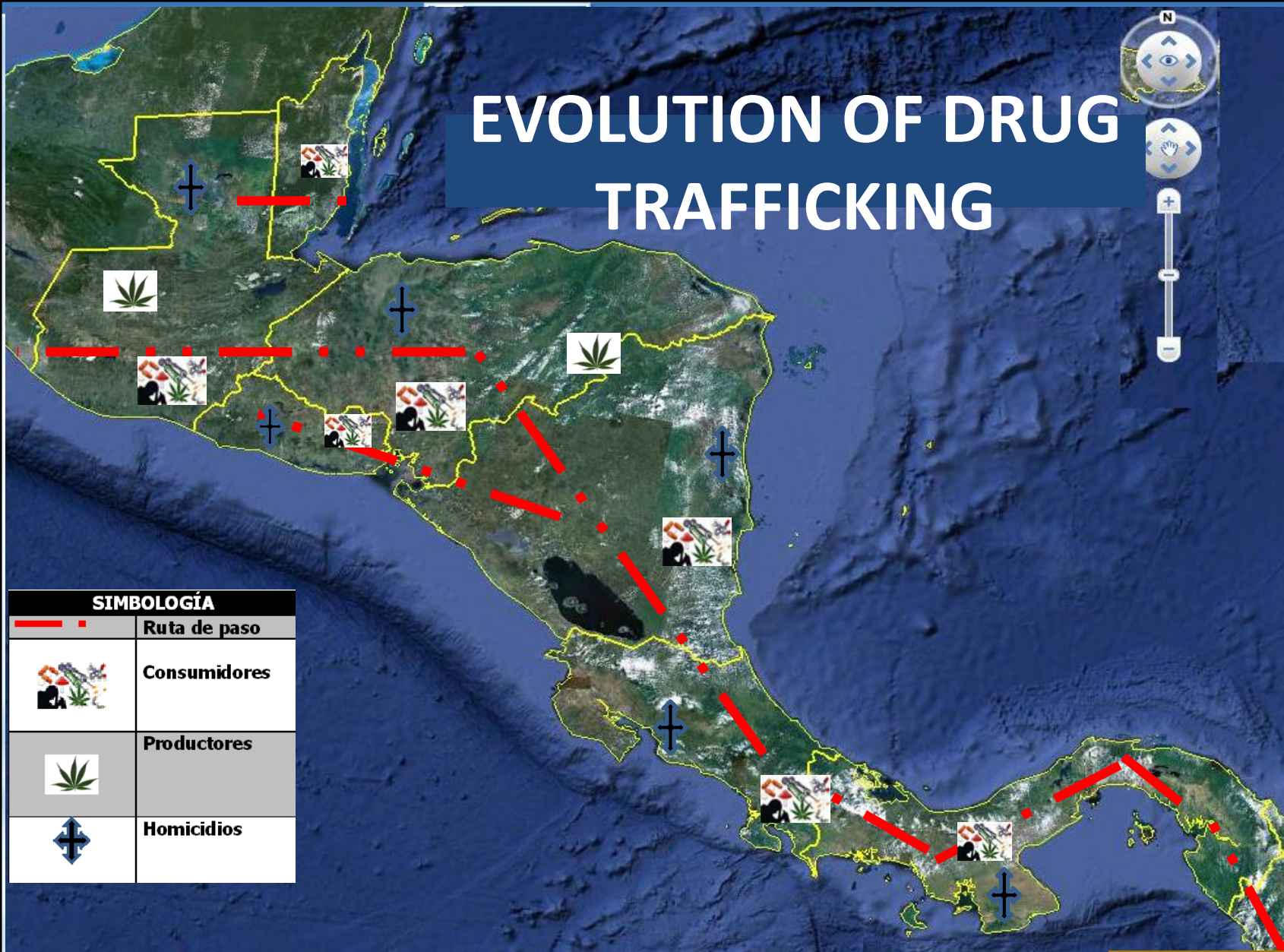
Guatemala represents the exit door of drugs. These drugs makes a stopover in different points of Central America to be moved toward Mexican territory.

The borders of our country with El Salvador and Honduras create some sort of triangle where drug shipments arrive to those countries by land, sea or air and then are transferred to our territory by means of any of the illegal steps that prevail along our borders.

This is not to say that the other countries that make up the Central American region are not being affected, since each one becomes the door of entry and exit of those cargoes.

Now we move from being a crossing route to becoming producers and consumers.

EVOLUTION OF DRUG TRAFFICKING



SIMBOLOGÍA

	Ruta de paso
	Consumidores
	Productores
	Homicidios

SOUTH AMERICA
Colombia, Ecuador,
Venezuela

EVOLUTION of DRUG TRAFFICKING IN GUATEMALA



1960-1980

1980-1990

1990-2000

2000-2012

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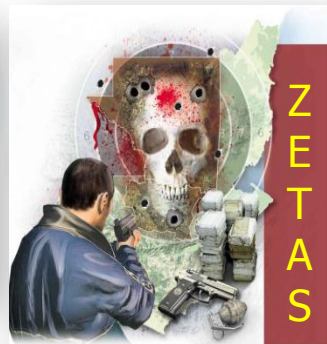
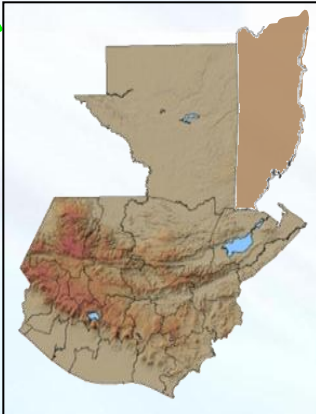
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• Transit country

- Transit country
- Consumption
- Main country racking drugs
- Influence of Colombian and Mexican Cartels in the region

- Transit country
- Consumption
- Mass production
- Collection of drugs
- Money Laundering
- Legalized armed forces
- Recruiting of security forces
- Incursion of Mexican Drug Cartels

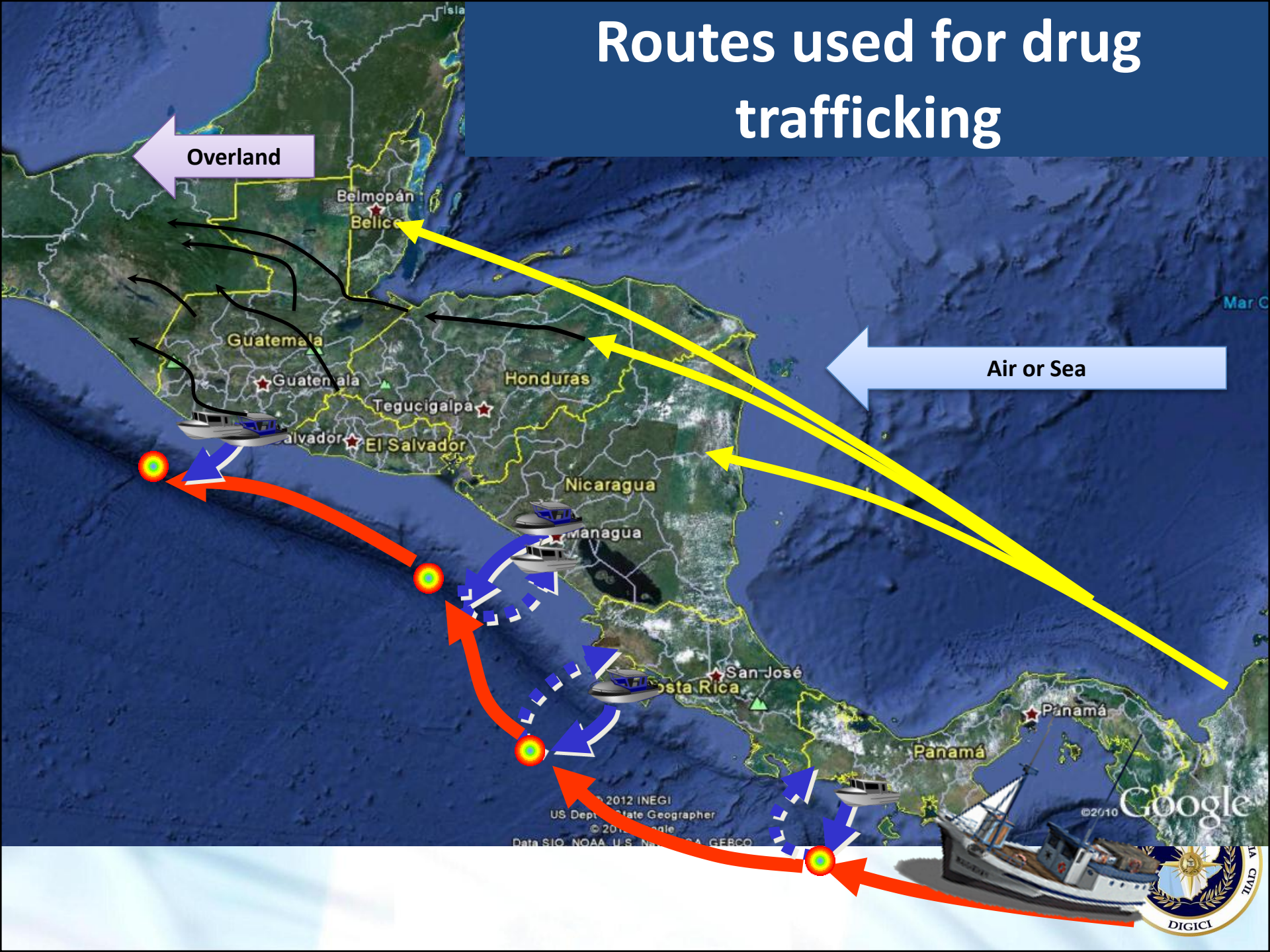
- Transit Country
- Consumption
- Collection of drugs
- Mass production
- Money Laundering
- Narcomenudeo and Sicariato
- Trafficking Of. Guns and ammunitions
- Socialization, support of the population with drug organizations
- Zetas Organization, associated with criminal activities in Guatemala
- Collective massacres
- Generalized violence
- Transfer of production of chemicals to synthetic drugs



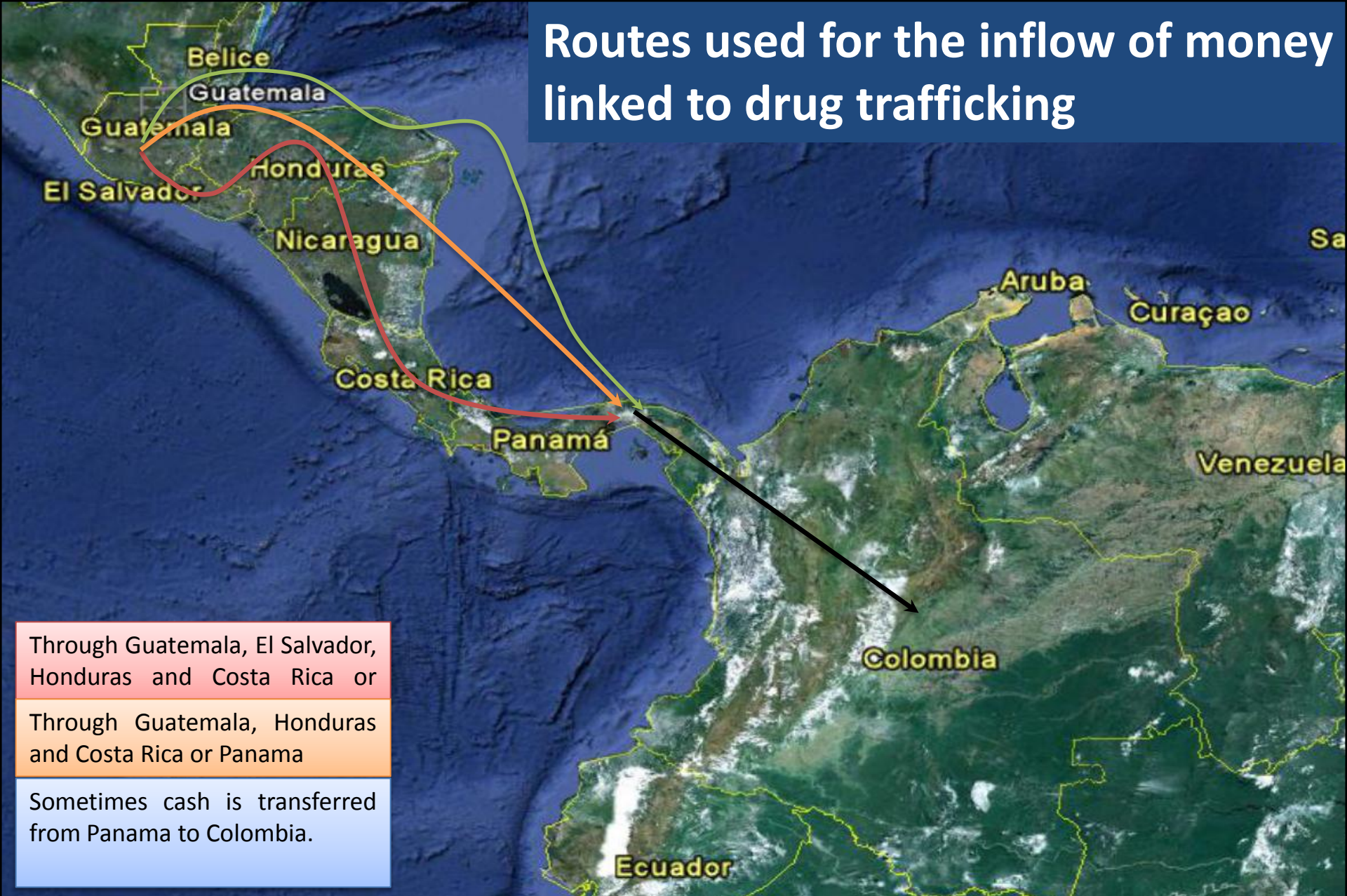
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Consecuencias debido a la reducción del Ejército

Routes used for drug trafficking



Routes used for the inflow of money linked to drug trafficking



Through Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica or

Through Guatemala, Honduras and Costa Rica or Panamá

Sometimes cash is transferred from Panamá to Colombia.

CURRENT STATUS OF DRUG TRAFFICKING IN GUATEMALA

GENERALITIES:

Drug trafficking in Guatemala began to flourish in the 90s. These were the last years of the internal armed conflict that affected the country. During that time, it was not a safe route for shipments of drug and weapons. After the signing of peace accords in 1996, foreign cartels noted that not only Guatemala but the whole Central American region was a point of interest for the transit of drugs, because of its geographical location, the porosity of its borders, the maritime area, and clandestine airstrips fostering its transfer.

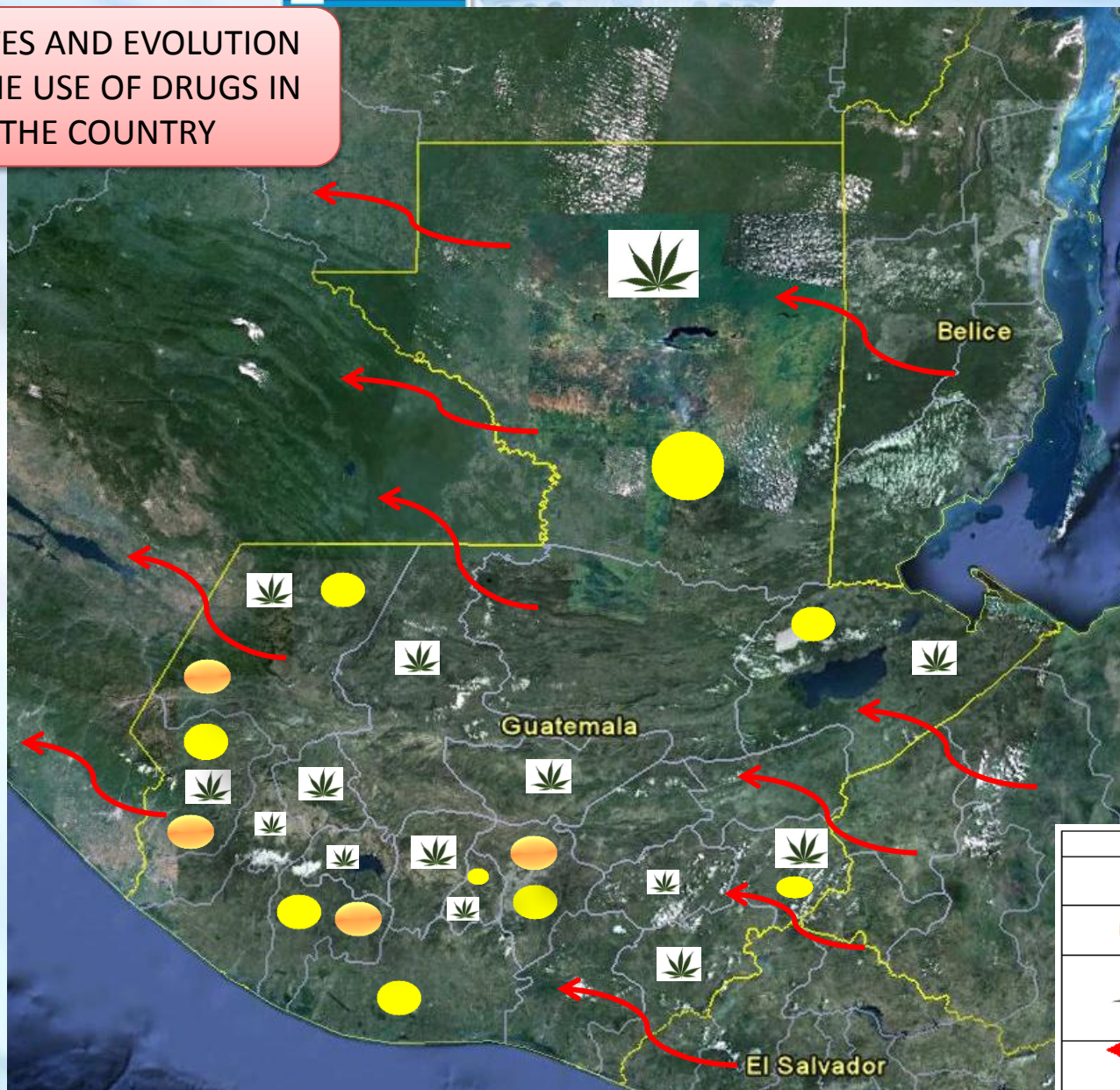
- Currently we are just no longer a crossing route but we also became producers and consumers.
- Before, seized or eradicated drug included cocaine, marijuana and poppy.
- The traffickers of these illicit activities have opted for other alternatives; which are reflected in the seizures of chemicals precursors as well as the seizure of heroin.
- On the other hand, it is worth mentioning that the good diligence of authorities has allowed for some structures of drug trafficking that operate in the country to be destabilized from the detention of their leaders.
- This does not mean they no longer operate, but it does force them to have conflicts within their organizations and they split, creating sub-operations.

In Guatemala there are around 6 structures of drug trafficking that arise from subgroups which operate at a territorial level. Within these structures, Guatemala was affected by Los Zetas, which has its origins in Mexico; formerly known as the military arm of the Gulf Cartel, and subsequently detached from it. This structure has been a threat to public safety, since their mode of operation is violent and bloody.

Derived from the actions taken by the security forces against this structure, it is now weakened; however, there is still a group that is being led by a person of Mexican origin known only as **"Yankee"**. This group is currently being reorganized and it is recruiting more staff to strengthen its structure and to seize control of the routes and drug shipments again.

It is known that they have shifted to Playa Grande, Ixcán, Quiché; Petén and Huehuetenango, routes that are adjacent to Mexico.

ROUTES AND EVOLUTION OF THE USE OF DRUGS IN THE COUNTRY



SIMBOLOGÍA	
	Precursores Químicos
	Laboratorios
	Erradicación de Plantas
	Rutas

CHEMICAL PRODUCTS SEIZED MORE FREQUENTLY

Seizure of chemicals used as precursors

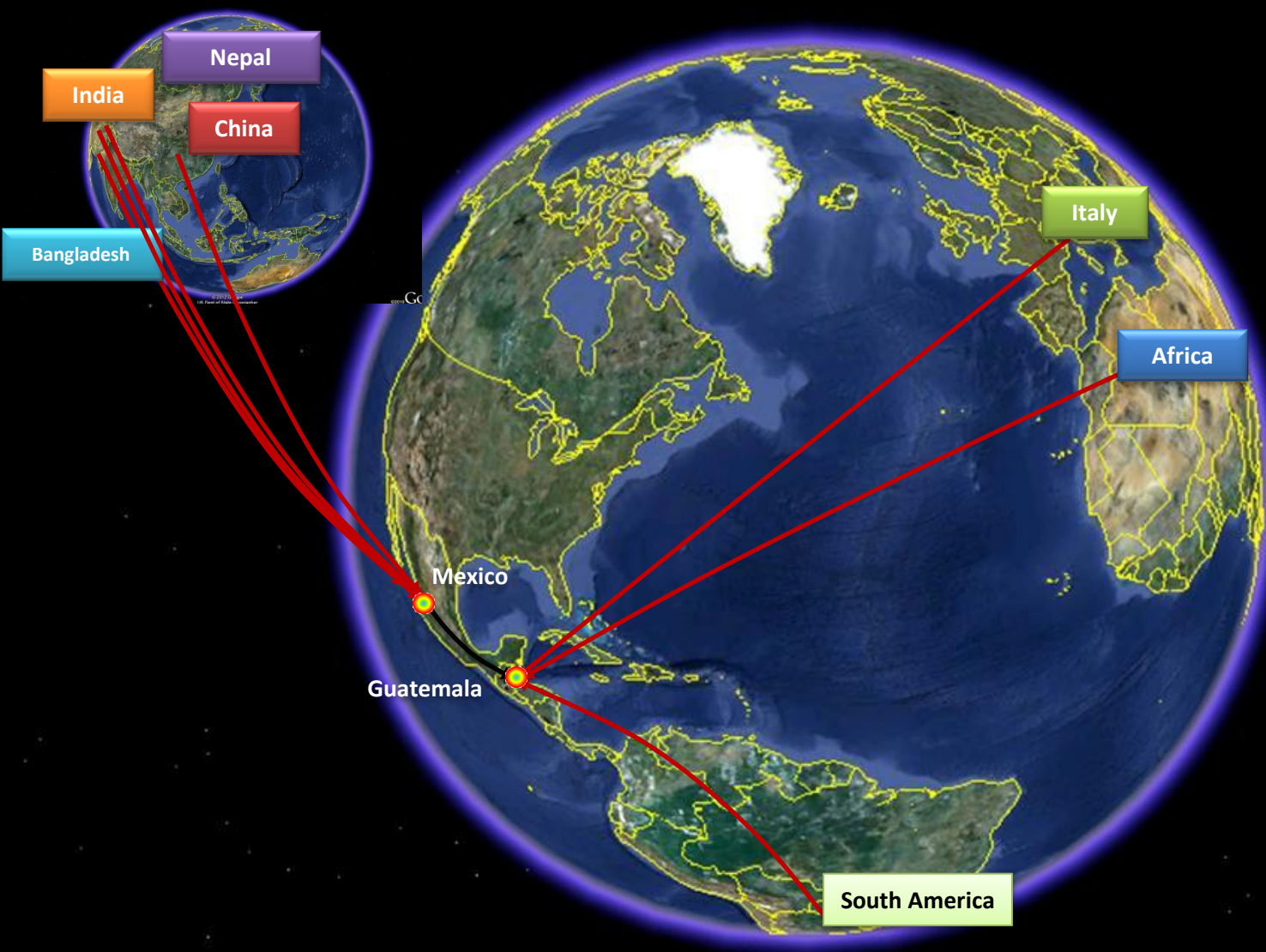
In 2011 and 2012, there has been a high percentage of seizure of chemicals used as precursors for the preparation of synthetic drugs. Such seizures took place in the different ports in the country (Escuintla and Santo Tomas de Castilla, Izabal). Similarly, clandestine laboratories have been localized and dismantled in some areas of the country.

Chemicals:

- Phenylacetic acid
- Caustic soda
- Ephedrine
- Methylamine
- Ammonium propionate
- Acetic acid
- Diethyl maleate
- Other



SEIZURE OF CHEMICAL PRECURSORS



Routes used for the inflow of illicit chemical substances

PROGRESS

- Application of the Domain Extinction Law
- The creation of the Fifth Vice Ministry of the Interior, with the aim of strengthening the fight against drug trafficking.
- Detection of groups of people who move money using the nine five hundred technique.
- Dismantling of clandestine laboratories for the creation of synthetic drugs.
- During this year approximately 4000 barrels of precursor chemicals have been seized.
- The weakening of the structure of Los Zetas.
- The capture of several leaders from local structures of Guatemala.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!