



The Project on Advanced Systems and Concepts for Countering WMD (PASCC) is run at the Center on Contemporary Studies (CCC) and sponsored by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA). PASCC awards and supports strategic studies and dialogues that anticipate and try to reduce the threat of WMD capabilities.



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Growing Nonproliferation Challenges in Southeast Asia: Forecasting Emerging Capabilities and their Implications on Control of Sensitive WMD-related Technologies

Performer: Middlebury Institute of International Studies
Project Lead: Stephanie Lieggi
Project Cost: \$76,000
FY15-16

Objective:

As the economies of Southeast Asia advance, so too does the risk of WMD proliferation. Regional governments are not fully cognizant that these growing capabilities mean their domestic industries will be seen as potential second-tier suppliers by proliferators. This project aims to answer two key questions: 1) How will the availability of dual-use commodities develop in Southeast Asia in the next decade? 2) What can be done at the domestic, regional, and international levels to establish sustainable frameworks to keep the region from becoming the next major proliferation challenge? This research can help identify the most problematic sectors in the near- to medium-term to effectively allocate limited resources to combat the spread of WMD-related commodities.

Approach:

The Middlebury Institute of International Studies' Center for Nonproliferation Studies (CNS) will identify evolving industrial capabilities in the region and forecast which industrial and service sectors are most likely to develop into near- to medium-term proliferation threats. In addition, it will examine key challenges facing the region in coming decades and develop methodologies for the relevant actors' consideration when coping with these issues. Researchers will also participate in the Asian Export Control Seminar, a regional roundtable in Jakarta. Finally, a report will disseminate knowledge gained about how illicit networks, non-state actors, and proliferating states could prey on emerging economies in Southeast Asia.

NPS Center on Contemporary Conflict