

METH AND METHODOLOGY

COMBINING GIS AND FIELDWORK TO INVESTIGATE ILLEGAL ECONOMIES IN AFGHANISTAN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14

6:30PM • SHIP.ZOOM.US/J/91810126746

RICHARD BRITTAN AND DR. DAVID MANSFIELD

To discover Afghanistan's dramatic rise in methamphetamine production, the speakers integrated high-resolution imagery and in-depth fieldwork to investigate remote and insecure parts of Afghanistan. Their detective work began with aerial photos of buckets of green gunge in Afghanistan's southwest that turned out to be ground ephedra, a crop that grows wild in the central highlands. The cheap raw material fuels a meth lab industry that produces low-cost, high-quality drugs for the global black market.

Richard Brittan is the founder of Alcis, a geographic information services company. **David Mansfield** is an independent consultant and author of *A State Built on Sand: How Opium Undermined Afghanistan*. Both speakers have worked extensively with the US and UK governments, NATO, and many international and non-governmental organizations.

Sponsored by the International Studies Program and the Criminal Justice, Geography/Earth Science, Military Science (ROTC), Political Science, and Sociology/Anthropology departments.



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