



Press release

Analysing the maritime domain contributes to a better surveillance at sea

The development of the blue economy requires the control of crimes and incidents at sea. As a response, the EU CRIMARIO project advocates regional cooperation and interagency coordination, which are illustrated today in Mombasa by the final session of the training cycle dedicated to maritime data analysis for 14 participants of Kenya, Madagascar and Seychelles (13-23 May, Sarova Whitesands hotel).

The EU CRIMARIO project has designed a complete training programme on maritime data analysis for the specialized staff of civilian and military agencies involved in the action of State at sea. The full cycle breaks down into six sessions on data visualisation and three on data analysis. As a result of this cycle, trainers on visualisation and analysts have acquired trainer skills, which will further facilitate knowledge and practice updates.

Kenya started this complete programme in 2018. After the data visualisation cycle (3 sessions and 6 certified trainers), the current cycle is dedicated to **maritime analysis**: This third and final session was attended by the 14 participants who successfully completed the test following the first session. They learned the alert warning process, and basics of maritime intelligence; they deepened their knowledge in law of the sea, oil and gas offshore installations, and they practiced with simulation exercises. As a result, trainees are prepared to analyse, synthesise & brief their authorities on decisions to be undertaken.

Kenya attendees belong to the main agencies involved in the surveillance of maritime domain: KPA, Fisheries Service, KMA, Navy, Revenue Authority, Wildlife service and Ministry of Interior. In addition two participants from **Madagascar** working at RMIFC (Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre), and one from **Seychelles** working at RCOC (Regional Coordination Operations Centre).

The recent size of Chinese flagged fishing vessels in Mombasa port demonstrates the importance of inter-agency cooperation, as emphasised and illustrated during the whole training cycle.

In addition, **IORIS**, the web platform for maritime information sharing and incident management at sea was introduced to the participants; the tool already equips Kenya Navy, KMA and KPA and will be used by the Joint Operations Centre, recently set up within Mombasa Port. At the regional level, **IORIS** equips the two regional centres covering the ESA-IO region (Eastern and Southern Africa-Indian Ocean): RMIFC based in Madagascar and RCOC based in Seychelles.

Finally, **the Automatic Identification System (AIS) network of Kenya** will benefit from equipment provision, installation and maintenance provided by EU CRIMARIO.



Why EU CRIMARIO ?

Responding to the challenge, the European Union supported the implementation of a regional mechanism, the **Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC)** - agreed in 2009 by 21 littoral states of the Western IO, amended in January 2017 in Jeddah - and initiated the **Critical Maritime Routes (CMR) programme** and the **EU NAVFOR-Atalanta operation**.

Under CMR, EU CRIMARIO aims to strengthen maritime safety and security in the wider IO region by supporting coastal countries in enhancing maritime situational awareness (MSA). **MSA is the sharing and fusion of data from various sources** to achieve a comprehensive understanding of the maritime domain, whilst an effective and sustainable MSA enables maritime stakeholders to improve security, safety and environment of this domain.

To support this, CRIMARIO introduced various initiatives in the region such as a web based information sharing and incident management network (**IORIS**), the creation of a regional AIS network, training & capacity building, workshops aimed at enhancing interagency and regional cooperation, and will establish a set of standards for information sharing.

The CRIMARIO project, managed by Expertise France and with a budget of €5.5 million, began in January 2015 and will run until December 2019.

In **Kenya**, CRIMARIO collaborates closely with **Kenya Port Authority (KPA)**, the national focal point of the project. A training program has been established, focusing on maritime data processing and the training of trainers. IORIS the web platform for information sharing and incident management at sea is already running in the Joint Operations Centre. The strengthening of the AIS national network is under implementation.

More on CRIMARIO activities and IORIS

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Click to see [IORIS video on Youtube](#)

More about KPA and JOC

Established in January 1978 under an Act of Parliament, KPA is mandated to manage and operate the Port of Mombasa and all scheduled seaports along Kenya's coastline that include Lamu, Malindi, Kilifi, Mtwapa, Kiunga, Shimoni, Funzi and Vanga. In addition, the Authority manages Inland Waterways as well as Inland Container Depots at Embakasi, Eldoret and Kisumu.

The **Joint Operations Centre**, hosted by Mombasa Port, was set up in 2017 to coordinate multi-agency maritime border operations.

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