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**EUNAVFOR**  
**Regional Threat Update**  
**Western Indian Ocean and Red Sea**



# Agenda

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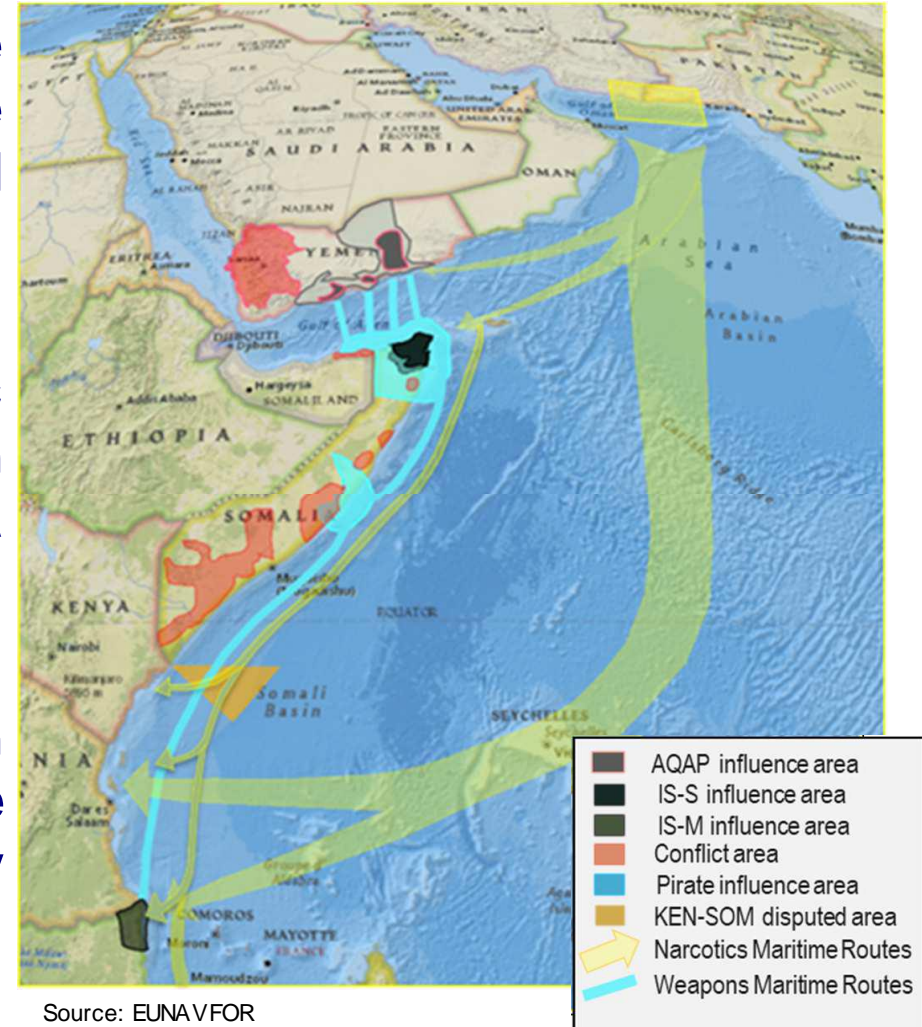
- **Introduction**
- **Regional Update**
- **Illicit Maritime Activities: Summary**
  - **Piracy**
  - **Narcotics Smuggling**
  - **Weapon Smuggling**
  - **Conflict Related Maritime Events**
  - **Human Trafficking & Charcoal Smuggling**
  - **IUU Fishing**
  - **Threat Summary**



# Regional Update



- The region is critical to the global economy, with huge economic potential, and incredible biodiversity
- An area of growing strategic competition & contest, with proxies & grey-zone activity a growing theme
- Conflict and crime flourish in fragile states, adding to a range of extant maritime security threats



Source: EUNAVFOR



# Somalia

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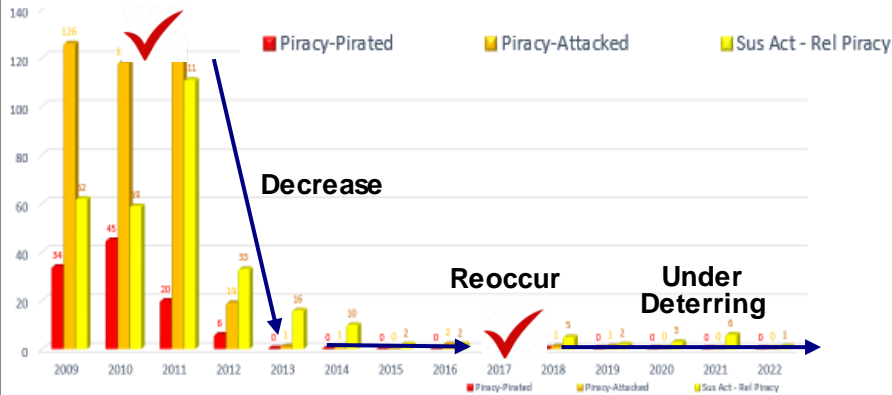
- Decades of humanitarian crisis, conflicts & terrorist threat, exacerbated by drought & governance challenges
- With improving Somali Government capabilities, intolerance of local populace, and presence of international forces; risk of Piracy has reduced.
- Piracy suppressed but not eradicated - causal factors remain, & facilitators focused on other lucrative activity
- BMP & naval forces remain a meaningful deterrent
- Remains a critical node for wider illicit activity, presenting multiple maritime security threats



# Piracy



**Piracy and Piracy-Related incidents (2009~2022) (Source: CMF)**



## Current situation in Somalia

- Continuing severe drought
- Displaced people due to domestic instability
- War against Al-Shabaab intensifies
- Indian Ocean HRA Removal
- There are no indicators regarding the reoccurrence of Somali piracy.

## Assessment

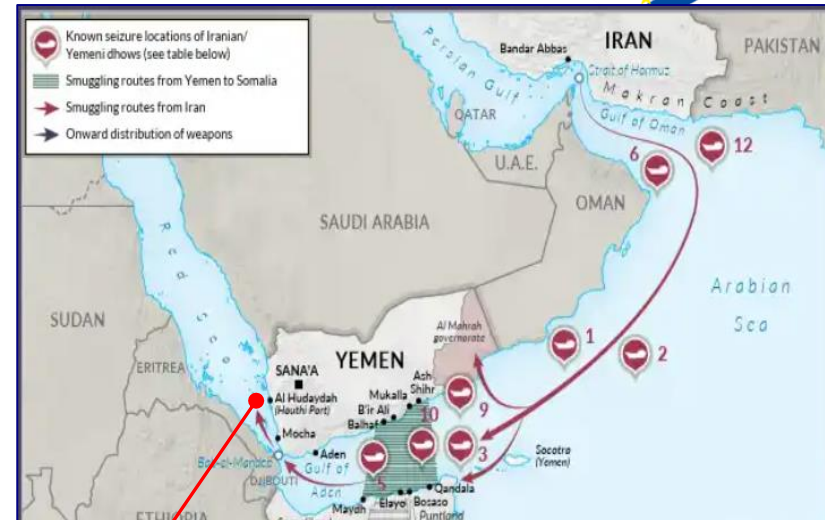
- Somali piracy continues to be suppressed and remain LOW level due to the following reasons
  - Combined effort of CMF, EUNAVFOR and other naval forces;
  - Continued implementation of BMP5 by MVs;
  - Adoption by former pirates of lower risk criminal activities such as smuggling.
  - Increasing capability of Somali forces and intolerance of piracy from local populace; every day Piracy is becoming high risks as compare to benefits.
- However, piracy has not been eradicated and the threat may increase as a result of multiple factors
  - The shipping industry ceases to fully implement BMP5
  - There is a significant decrease in the presence of warships and local maritime security forces in the area;
  - The continued deterioration in the security, economic and political situation, coupled with the increase in poverty due to famine, droughts, floods and locust infestations demands a continuous vigilance IOT avoid giving any Target of opportunity



# Yemen



- Yemeni conflict accelerated arms proliferation, involving small arms and light weapons & more complex systems
- Expiration of the truce has resulted in a new wave of violence. Oil tankers involved in exporting oil from Yemen have been threatened with drone strikes
- Surge in human trafficking, illegal migration & wider illicit smuggling
- FSO Safer: A potential economic & environmental disaster



*Weapon Interdiction Locations*





# Weapon Smuggling



- Trafficking poses a significant security threat, involving firearms, explosive materials, more complex weapons, components and precursors as well as uncrewed systems
- Arms trans-shipped in Omani / Somali waters to smaller boats, with the cargo delivered to ports on the south coast of Yemen, & smuggled overland or, through the Bab-el-Mandab





# Conflict Related Threats



## Southern Red Sea/ BAM/ GoA:

- UAS/ USVs
- Mines
- ASCM

## Arabian Gulf:

- UAS

## UAS Threat:

- Increase in the prevalence and sophistication of UAS.
- The availability of systems to non-state actors is increasing.
- Threat to MVs is low however moderate for vessels operating within TTW of Yemen especially the one exporting oil from Yemen



The Samad-3 displayed by Houthi forces along with other drones and missiles - SOUTH MEDIA







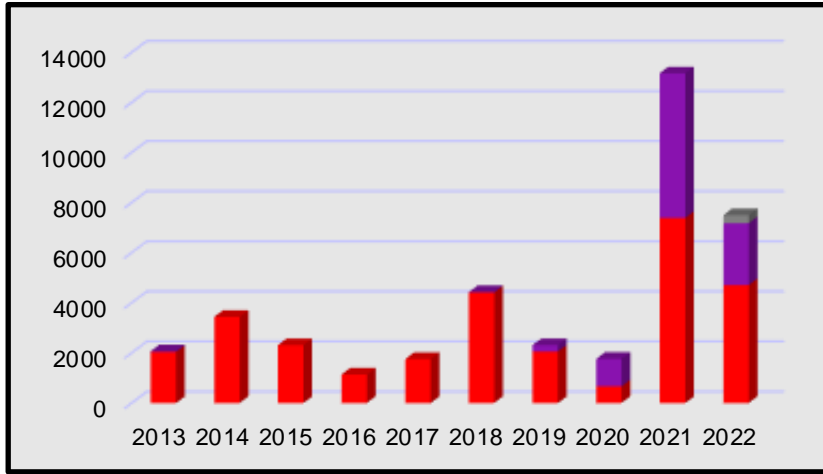
# Conflict Related Incidents - 2022



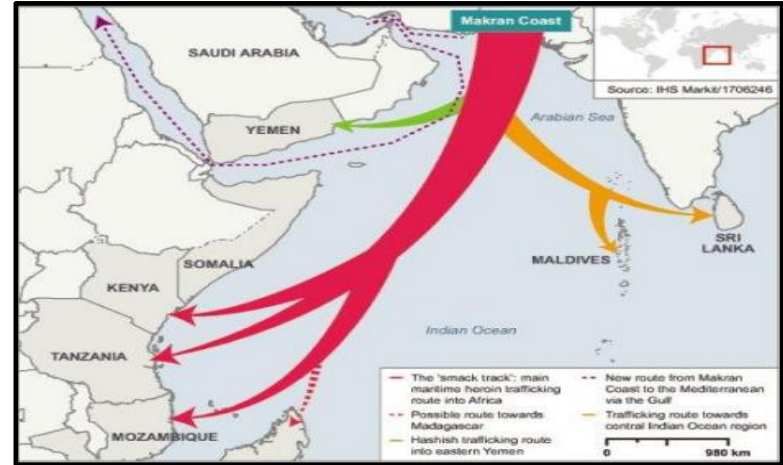
S No	Date	Location	Incident
1	02 Jan	Yemen TTW	MV RWABEE (UAE Flagged) attacked and sized under HOUTHİ control
2	18 Feb	İVO Hodeydah Port	SLC reported they have destroyed explosive laden boat
3	28 Feb	Yemen North-West region	Yemen's Army destroyed 02 x explosive laden boat in RS
4	5 Mar	Red Sea	As per KSA statement Houthis fired at least one missile in to Red Sea. Missile did not land near any shipping lane. Not confirmed through any other source
5	19 May	Yemen TTW	SV LAKOTA approached by two armed boats. 1 person boarded and asked for money. Left crew unharmed when no money was given
6	27 May	SOH, Four Island Iran	Greek-Flagged Suezmax Oil Tanker, MV PRUDENT WARRIOR and MV DELTA POSEİDON detained and sized by İRGCN in response to detention of MV LANA by Greece.
6	21 Oct	Al-Dhabba Port Yemen	02 x UAVs exploded close to Oil Tanker NISSOS KEA, Marshal Island flagged, whilst connected to a single buoy mooring loading crude oil
7	09 Nov	Qena, Yemen	02 x UAS shot down by the local air defence of Quena port, which were attempting strike on a Saint Kitts and Nevis-flagged UAE affiliated general purpose tanker
8	15 Nov	GOO	Suspected USV/ UAV hit MV PACİFİC ZİRCON and damage hull. Likely due Liberia Flagged vessel from company with ownership links to Israel.



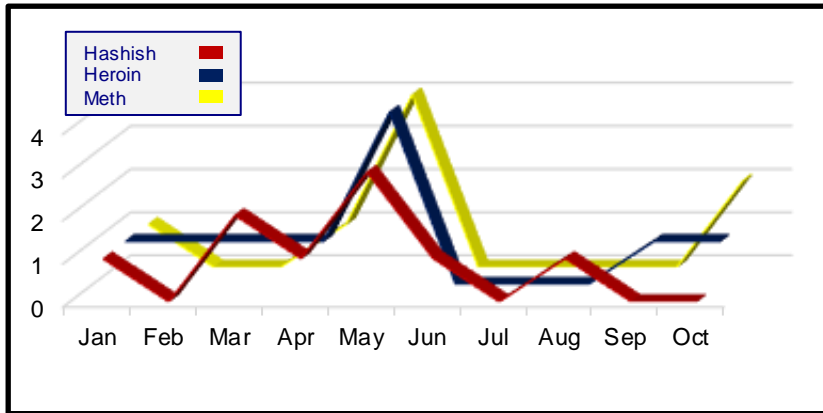
# Narcotics



Amount of synthetic narcotics seizures Jan 2013 - Oct 2022



Narcotics main routes



Monthly seizures Jan – Oct 2022

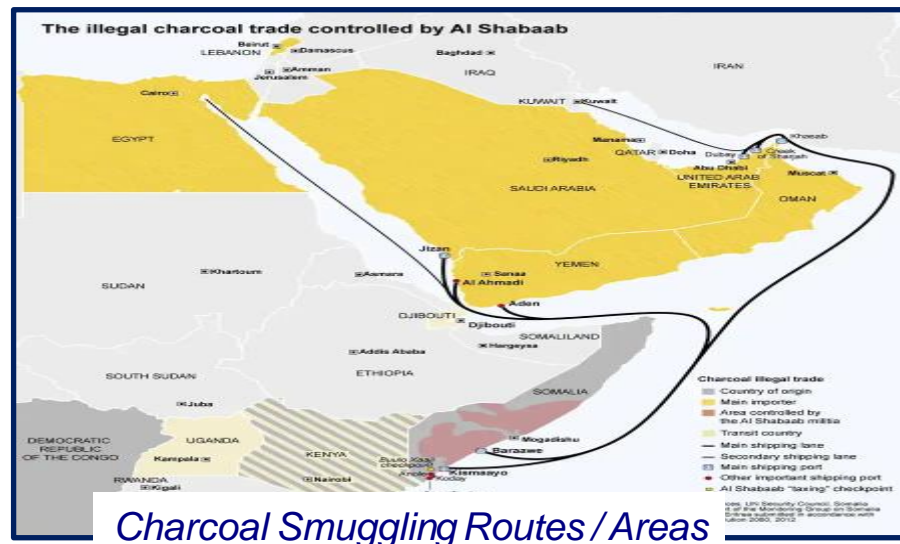
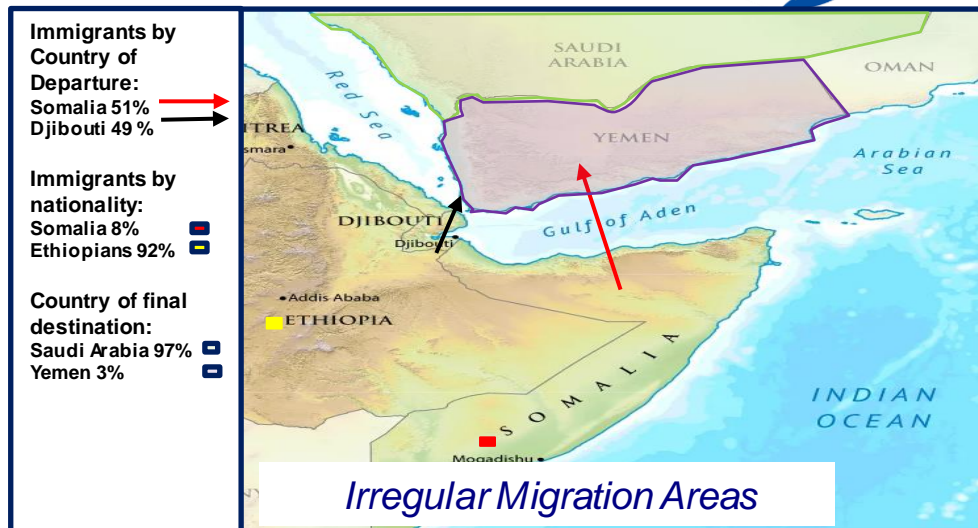
NARCOTIC	PRICE USD/Kg
Amphetamine	9,500
Cocaine	50,989
Hashish	508
Heroin	10,500
MDMA (Ecstasy)	5000
Methamphetamine	27,000
Captagon	2.24/pill; 1KG=14931.84
Tramadol	3.52/pill

Source: Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) 2022



# Human Trafficking & Charcoal Smuggling

- Notable increase in irregular migration from Somalia & Djibouti in the Horn of Africa, across the Gulf of Aden to reach Yemen
- Conditions across the Gulf of Aden from Djibouti/ Somalia to Yemen are severe, conservatively estimated to have a mortality rate of 5%
- The charcoal ban has been relatively effective: In 2013 the charcoal trade was \$360m. This diminished to \$150m in 2018. Current assessment is that charcoal trade makes less than \$8m PA





# IUU FISHING



- In the Western Indian Ocean IUU is most acutely felt where a lack of legislation and regulations exist and/ or nations are unable to enforce them. Somalia, Yemen and Mozambique have been identified as 3 focal areas where these conditions exist and sufficient data exists to provide an understanding of the scale of the problem.
- The heat map clearly depicts the cluster of fishing areas in Somali, Yemen and Mozambique EEZ.



Source : Global Fishing Watch

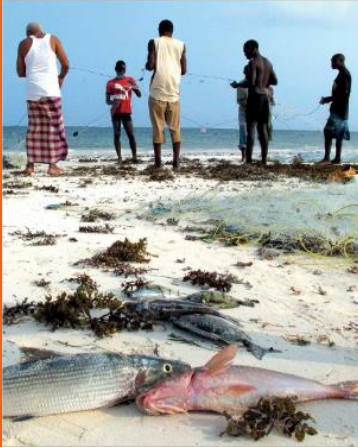


# IUU FISHING



- Illicit activity in the Indian Ocean is interconnected
- IUU exacerbates poverty
- Losses to Western Indian Ocean Nations from IUU are estimated at \$206-504 million annually

There is increasing evidence that illegal fishing operators not only fail to comply with fisheries rules and regulations but are part of highly organised, transnational criminal operations involved in a range of criminal activity




- DOCUMENT FORGERY
- MONEY LAUNDERING
- TAX EVASION
- HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES
- SMUGGLING OF ARMS, WEAPONS, DRUGS AND WILDLIFE
- PIRACY
- ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

To tackle fisheries crime requires the involvement and commitment of many agencies nationally, regionally and internationally

### THE CHALLENGES IN STOPPING ILLEGAL FISHING

MAIN VIOLATIONS WITHIN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN

- TARGETING UNAUTHORISED SPECIES
- ILLEGAL TRANSSHIPMENT
- OUTDATED LAWS
- FORGED DOCUMENTS
- CORRUPTION
- FISHING WITH UNAUTHORISED GEAR OR METHODS
- ILLEGAL TRADE IN FISH
- FISHING IN PROHIBITED AREAS
- LARGE EEZs TO MONITOR
- FISHING WITHOUT A VALID LICENSE
- DAMAGE TO ARTISANAL GEAR AND VESSELS
- LOW CAPACITY TO PATROL WATERS
- PROVIDING FALSE, INACCURATE OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON CATCHES



Source: Fish-I Africa



# Summary

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- **Maritime Security Threats are often inter-connected**
- **The spill-over of conflicts in Somalia, Yemen & Mozambique creates a permissive environment for wider illicit activity**
- **The narcotics trade is adaptable, resilient & regionally networked - & holds back economic & social development**
- **Less traditional threats include cyber threats, climate change impacts - & bureaucratic failures to share information**



# Threat Summary

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## Piracy

- Suppressed But Not Eradicated
- Overall Threat LOW

## Narcotics Smuggling

- Seasonal Impacts, Adaptable & Resilient
- Increasing Threat

## Conflict Related

- Increasing Threat in RED SEA
- Threat to MVs low, moderate for vessels operating within TTW of Yemen especially the one exporting oil from Yemen

## Weapon Smuggling

- Conflict Related, Increased Proliferation
- Increasing Threat



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# Questions?