



EU's maritime security programmes and projects

DCOC High Level Meeting – 13/11/2025

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EU's maritime security projects in the Region

Safe Seas for Africa

Red Sea Programme

PSP

EU CRIMARIO III

New crisis response project for maritime security in the Red Sea
and the Western Indian Ocean



SAFE SEAS AFRICA / PORT SECURITY PROGRAMME

WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN

How the DCoC can benefit ?

Nov 2025

DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN UNION TO MAURITIUS AND SEYCHELLES

RATIONALE FOR EU SUPPORT

- Lessons learnt from MASE programme
 - Maritime security is transnational
 - Fragmented maritime domain awareness
 - Jurisdictional Limitations
 - Need to enhance operational coordination and execution at both national and regional levels
 - Enhanced ownership, trust and regional partnerships
 - Develop sustainable regional maritime security architecture with partners

The **Safe Seas Africa (SSA)** builds on those lessons to support countries of the DCoC in various areas :





A Holistic Approach to Maritime Security



SAFE SEAS AFRICA – STATE OF PLAY

- SSA signed in 2024 with IOC, INTERPOL, UNODC, IMO
- Implementation over 5 year period (2024-2028)
- Overall budget €25M
- SSA launch done in May 2025, along with MASE Steering Committee
- **Priority areas**
 - Enhance national governance framework for improved and timely decision making
 - Improve partnership and working relationship with countries in the region
 - Need for a formal Coast Guard Forum to enhance operations at sea in this region
 - Countries would benefit from working more effectively with the RMIFC/RCOC and international partners



SAFE SEAS AFRICA RESULT AREAS

- Result I – Improved law enforcement at national level to prevent, respond and investigate maritime crimes (implemented by INTERPOL)
 - Capacity Building to law enforcement agencies on evidence collection at sea, prosecution & case management.
 - Live operation sessions in maritime crime investigation techniques
 - Provide non-lethal equipment and technical support (forensics kits) where needed and consistent with DCoC priorities.



SAFE SEAS AFRICA RESULT AREAS

- Result II – Support to judicial bodies for trial and prosecution (implemented by UNODC)
 - Facilitate regional and bilateral cooperation agreements among the countries in the region
 - Assess the feasibility of endorsing a Regional Agreement to implement Art. 17 of the Vienna Convention
 - Support specialist maritime crime prosecutors' workshops and exchange secondments between DCoC states to standardize legal approaches, share evidence-handling SOPs and reduce impunity.



SAFE SEAS AFRICA RESULT AREAS

- Result III – Strengthening of capacities and capabilities of national and regional maritime security centres (implemented by IOC)
 - Improve governance mechanism at national level (support to national maritime information sharing centres)
 - Improve coordination between the national set-up with the Regional Maritime Security Architecture
 - Co-sponsor and coordinate joint patrols/exercises with regional navies/coast guards and international operations (e.g., EU/ATALANTA-type coordination) to ensure role clarity between foreign naval assets and national law enforcement (boarding, evidence, transfer, prosecution). □
 - Run joint tabletop exercises (TTX) and regular multi-agency drills with DCoC Focal Points, coast guards and MRCCs to validate SOPs and cross-border case handling.



SAFE SEAS AFRICA RESULT AREAS

- Result IV – Development of intra-national/inter-agency and inter-regional coordination and cooperation (implemented by IMO)
 - Enhance capability of National Maritime Security Committees as the national governance mechanism to address maritime threats
 - Support enhancement of national Maritime Operations Centres / Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) and linkage with the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Center and Regional Coordination Operations Centre under the Regional Maritime Security Architecture.
 - Improve real time awareness of maritime threats
 - Enhance operational cooperation & interoperability through multi country simulation and field exercises.



PORT SECURITY PROGRAMME (PSP)

- Enhance Maritime Security, inline with AU Integrated Maritime Strategy 2050
- Working in partnership with RCOC/RMIFC, Regional organisations and other EU-funded programmes
- Implementing partners: IOC, IMO, UNODC and Interpol.
- Overall budget €28M (2019-2026)



PORT SECURITY PROGRAMME (PSP) – Specific Objectives

- Reinforcement of the capacities of Maritime Affairs Authorities and governmental agencies – **IMO**
- Implementation of ISPS Code and related compliance framework adopted by ports of EA-SA-IO Region – **IMO**
- Port facility security measures and risk assessment are enhanced; port security management is improved – **IMO and UNODC**.
- Regional information sharing mechanism and exchange of data on cargo and passengers is developed – **IOC**
- Reinforcement of the response capacities of law enforcement agencies in the Region – **INTERPOL**



CONCLUSION

- SSA and PSP contribute to enhance Maritime Security, inline with AU Integrated Maritime Strategy 2050
- SSA and PSP are already working in partnership with DCoC , RMSA - RCOC/RMIFC, Regional organisations and other EU-funded programmes
- By combining capacity building, legal harmonisation, information sharing, coordination of regional operational actions at sea and governance enhancement, the EU Safe Seas Africa programme can significantly reinforce the DCoC framework through its various working groups and strengthen regional maritime security and cooperation.



RED SEA PROGRAMME

Enhance maritime and port security and safety of navigation Southern Red Sea and Gulf of Aden region

- 5 beneficiaries countries : Djibouti – Ethiopia – Somalia - Sudan - Yemen.
- Project budget: EUR 20 000 000 – Duration: 02/2021 – 11/2026
- Implementation partners: UNODC + IMO + INTERPOL + IGAD
- Specific objectives:
 - National maritime law enforcement agencies efficiently prevent, repress and respond to maritime threats;
 - Improving port security and safety of navigation standards and
 - Improving the levels of cooperation and dialogue across the region on issues related to maritime security and safety of navigation, and
 - Improving the maritime policy environment of the Horn of Africa.



EU CRIMARIO III

- Support partners addressing maritime security and safety threats and challenges
- Indo-Pacific and moving to the entire Latin American continent
- Focus on inter-agency cooperation and maritime domain awareness at national and regional levels, including operational mentoring
- Capacity-building initiative in line with the EU's Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific (2021) and the updated EU Maritime Security Strategy (2023)
- Implemented by EF



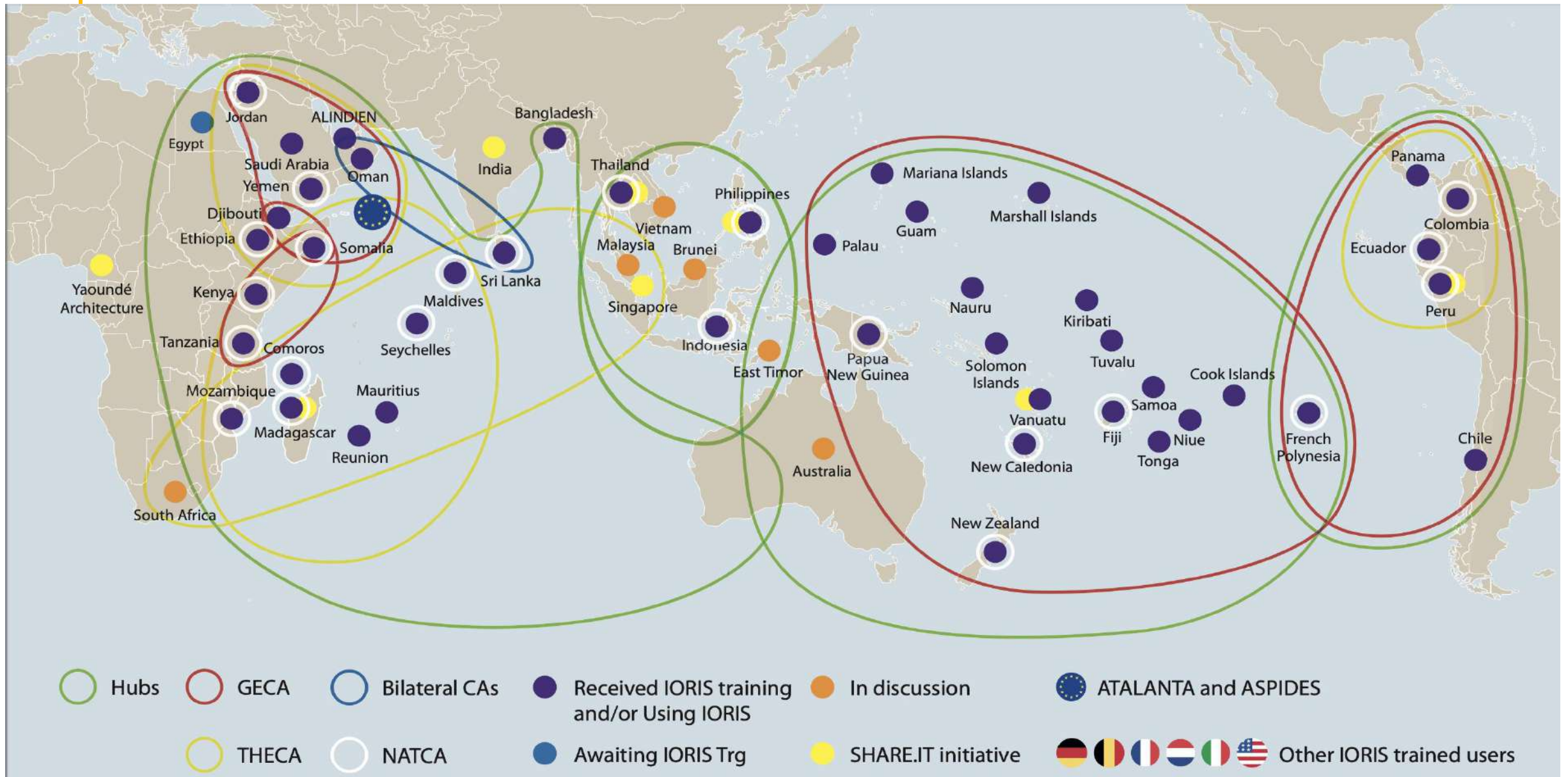
IORIS Platform – Facilitating connectivity / interoperability

- IORIS is not an EU System, but an EU-funded System for the Regions
- EU / CRIMARIO does not have access to the data being exchanged
- Only those in a Community Area have access to information being exchanged

PROTECTION AND SECURITY OF SOVEREIGN DATA



IORIS State-of-Play

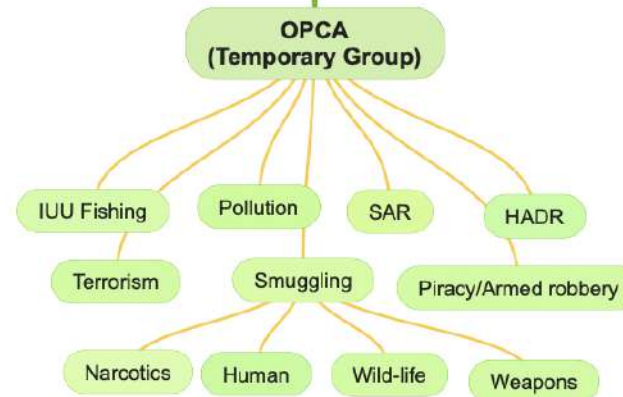


IORIS National / Geographic / Thematic Operational Community areas

Information-Exchange (Routine)



Operational Coordination



IORIS Governance

Steering Committee Meeting

IORIS Community established May 2023

- Regional Governance Structure
- 32 - Full Members
- 39 - Provisional Members
- 32 - Associate Members

Active IORIS users define the future

Observers

- Over 57 Countries
- Over 200 organisations
- Int /Regional organisations: IMO/DCOC, UNODC
- States: UK, US, Italy

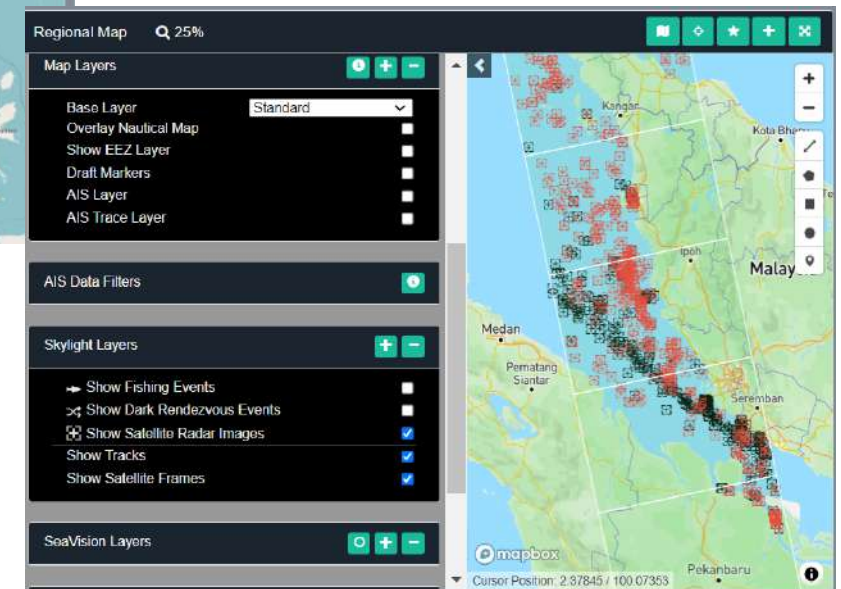
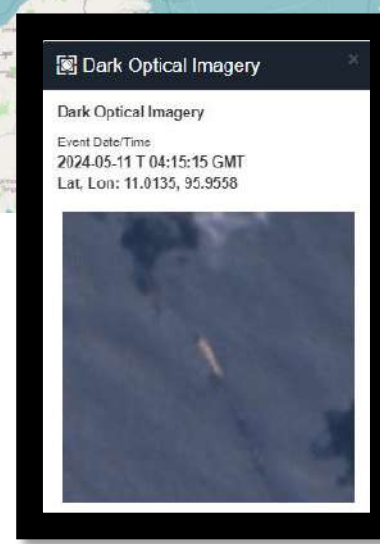
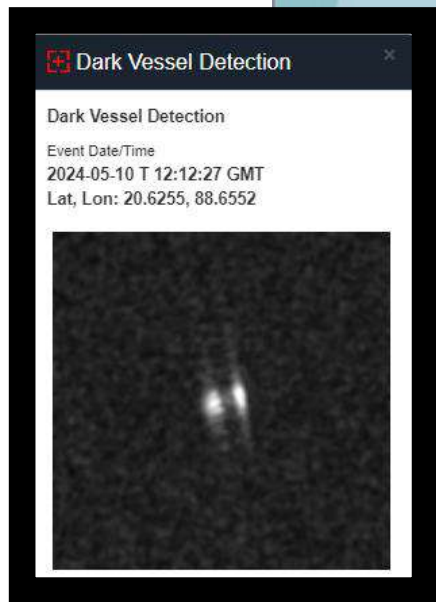
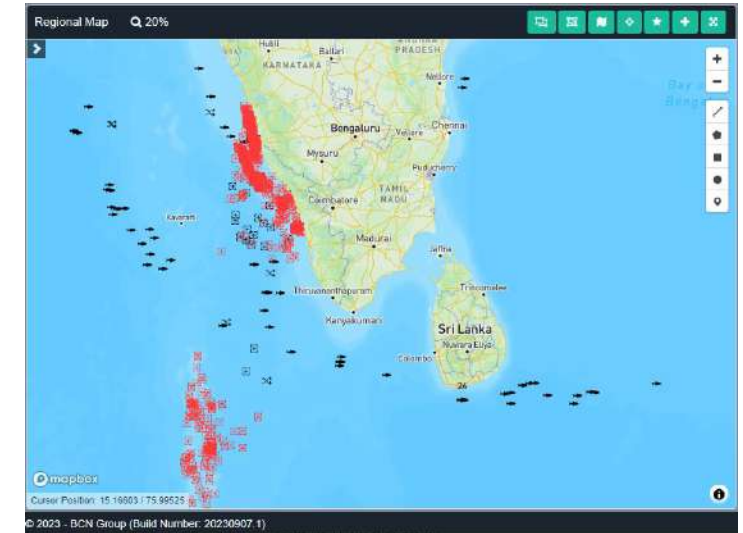
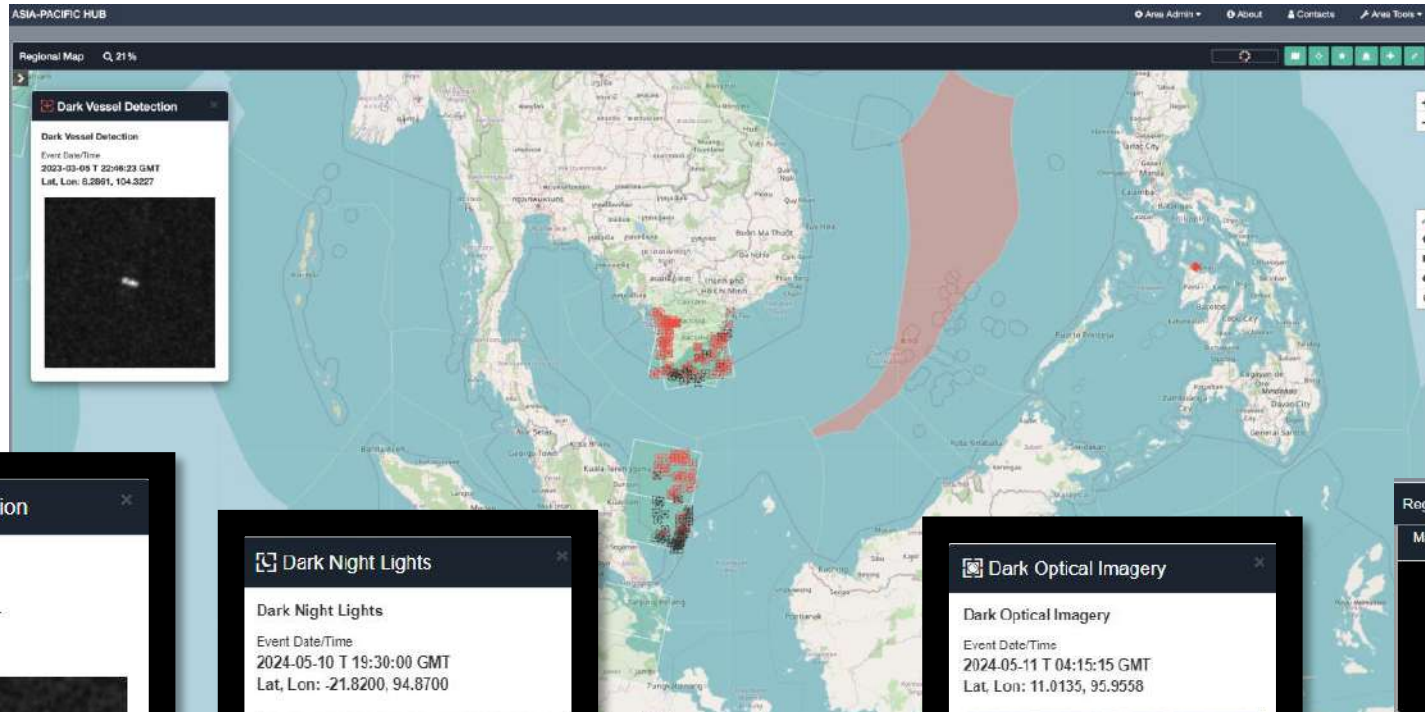
Policy Board

- Operational WG
- Legal WG



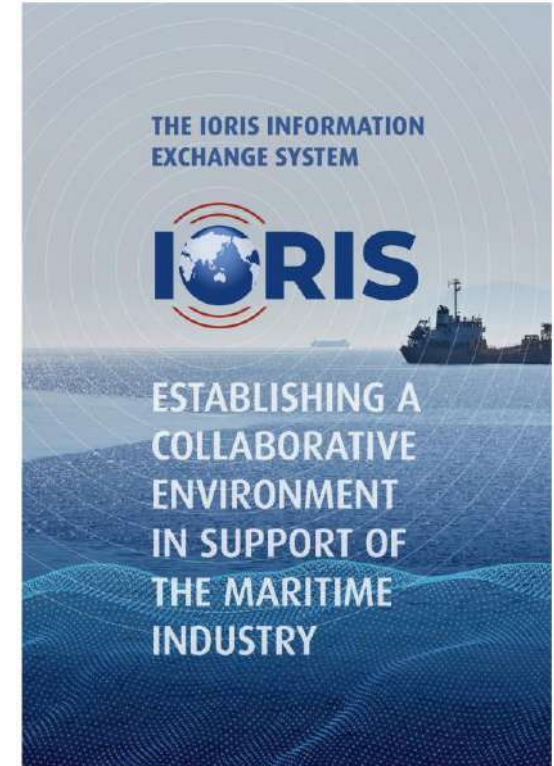
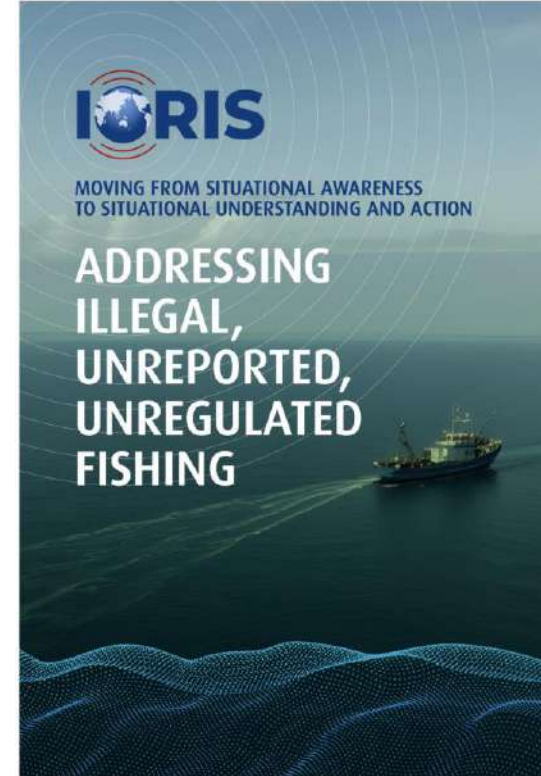
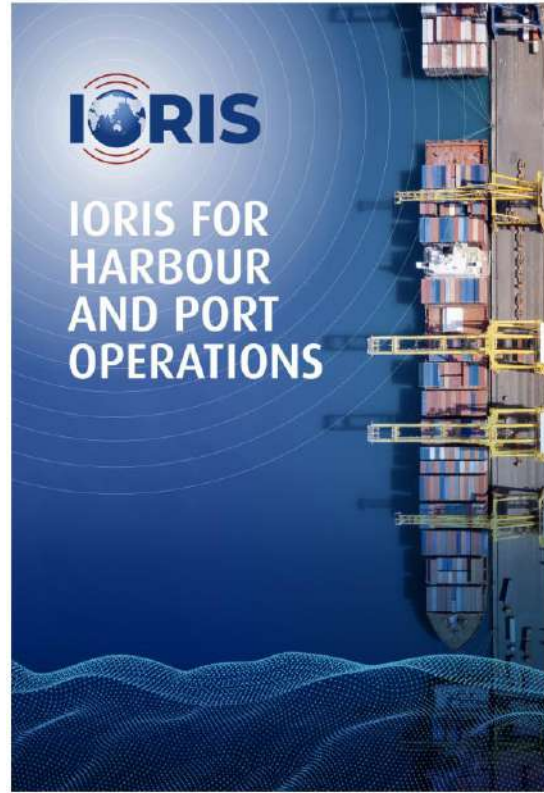
IORIS maritime coordination tool

SKYLIGHT ADDRESSING DARK TARGETS



IORIS Variants

- IORIS SHIP
- IORIS PORT
- (IORIS MSW)
- IORIS SAR
- IORIS IUU



IORIS MOBILE PHONE APPLICATION

Purpose

- Offers:
 - Directors / Managers of Centres to access information when out of office
 - Allows Policy makers to follow emerging situations
 - Allows Master Mariners to communicate with warships when not in front of a PC

Key Features

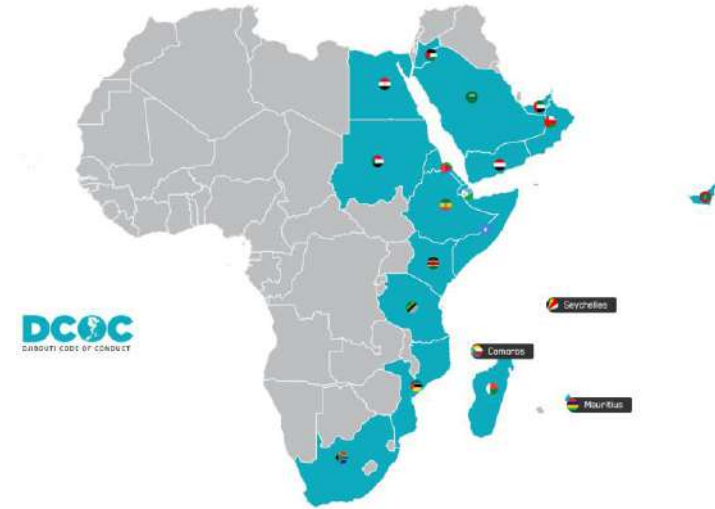
- Same applications offered as on IORIS

Key take aways

- EU CRIMARIO's achievements over the last 10 years are tremendous
- More work is needed to further support our partner countries and new ones
- Continue strengthening capacity building, through the IORIS platform,
- Focusing on ensuring the platform's credibility, long-term use and related sustainability

New Crisis Response project: Basic facts

- Strengthen region's **maritime security capacities**
- Red Sea and Western Indian Ocean
- EUR 4 million
- Component 1: Djibouti Code of Conduct Information Sharing Network
- Component 2: Coast Guards in Yemen and Djibouti
- Implementing partners:
 - IMO (DCOC Secretariat) – lead
 - EF – support
 - UNODC – support (Component 2)



Crisis Response project for maritime security in Red Sea / WIO

Expected Outputs

- Development and adoption of a Regional Maritime Security Strategy by the DCoC/JA.
- Improved DCoC/JA Information Sharing Network aligned with Jeddah Amendment objectives.
- Enhanced operations at the Regional Maritime Information Sharing Centre in Aden, Yemen,
- A strengthened DCoC Regional Training Programme supporting information sharing.
- Coast guard capacities in Yemen and Djibouti are stronger in addressing maritime threats.
- Strengthen cross-border collaboration among Yemen and Djibouti Coast Guard

Video for the official launch of the CRP RedWIO

THANK YOU