

#MASE Programme

A Strong Partnership Towards a Safe and Secure Maritime Domain



This project is funded by the
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AFRICA CENTER FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES

STRENGTHENING MARITIME SECURITY IN AFRICA

MARITIME INSECURITY ACROSS AFRICA

The case of Eastern and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean

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INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Africa has 54 states;
- ❖ 38 are coastal;
- ❖ Maritime zones under African jurisdiction cover over 13 million km², including territorial seas;
- ❖ Approximately 6.5 million km² of continental shelf;
- ❖ Two thirds of the surface area of the African continent is under water;
- ❖ The Indian Ocean, one of the oceans that touches our continent, is the third-most important ocean in the world, serving as a passageway for a large portion of global goods transported by boat.

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INTRODUCTION (cont'd)

- ❖ Maritime transportation is of critical importance for the economic development of Africa;
- ❖ African international trade is thus dependent on maritime transportation;
- ❖ More than 90% of African imports and exports are transported by sea and some of the most strategic international commercial axes are found in Africa

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THREATS WHICH AFFECT THE AFRICAN MARITIME ZONE ARE PART OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME:

- ❖ Weapon and Drug Trafficking;
- ❖ Piracy and Armed Robbery at sea;
- ❖ Illegal Oil Bunkering; the theft of crude oil along African coasts;
- ❖ Maritime Terrorism, Human Trafficking, and Illegal transportation of Asylum Seekers by sea;
- ❖ Illicit Fishing and Overfishing, unregulated and undeclared;
- ❖ Ecological crimes such as deliberate shipwrecking, intentional oil spills and dumping toxic wastes.

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- ❖ Trafficking in containers is also a large problem. Each day, more than 7 million containers of all sizes are transported across the world;

At the level of port and customs services, checking the contents is not effective enough;

Recent experience shows that these containers are used for all sorts of clandestine transportation, ranging from terrorists to forbidden goods.

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The most recurrent threats in the Zone of Western and Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean (AFOA-OI)

- ❖ Piracy;
- ❖ Drugs;
- ❖ Illegal immigration.
- ❖ Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing;

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Maritime Piracy



COMMISSION DE L'OCEAN INDIEN

Some figures

(Sources OBP)

Figure 1: Seafarers Attacked in 2011



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Maritime Piracy



COMMISSION DE L'OCEAN INDIEN

SOME FIGURES

SOURCES OBP



HUMAN COST BREAKDOWN:

2014 HUMAN COST OF PIRACY IN THE WESTERN INDIAN OCEAN REGION

320 Total Estimated Number of Seafarers Exposed to Attacks

Estimated Number of Seafarers Exposed to Attempted Boardings

302

18 Number of Seafarers Exposed to Successful Boardings

6 Held Less Than 1 Day

11 Held for 8 Days

1 Seafarer Killed



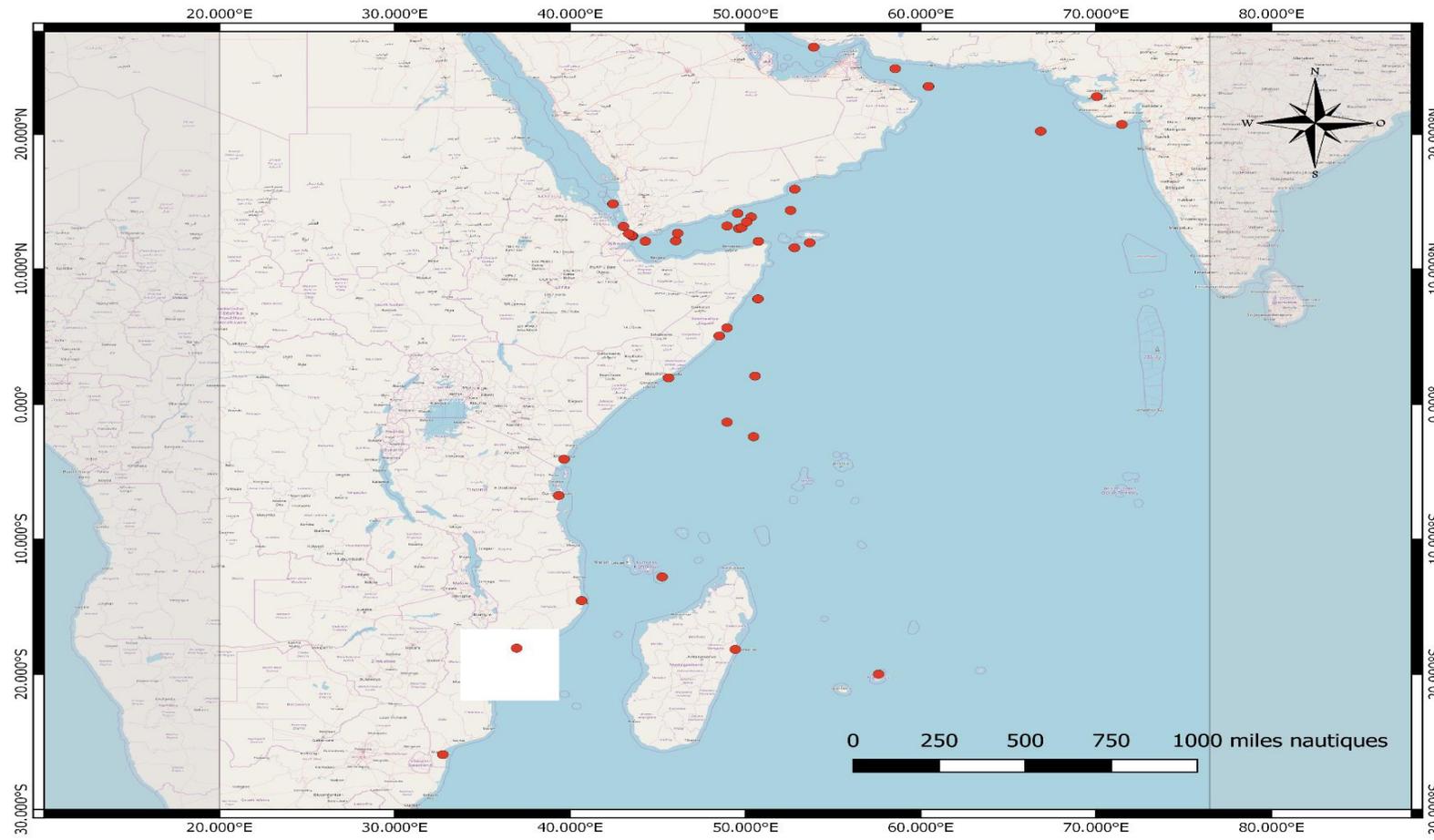
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Theft, Robbery, and Piracy at Sea



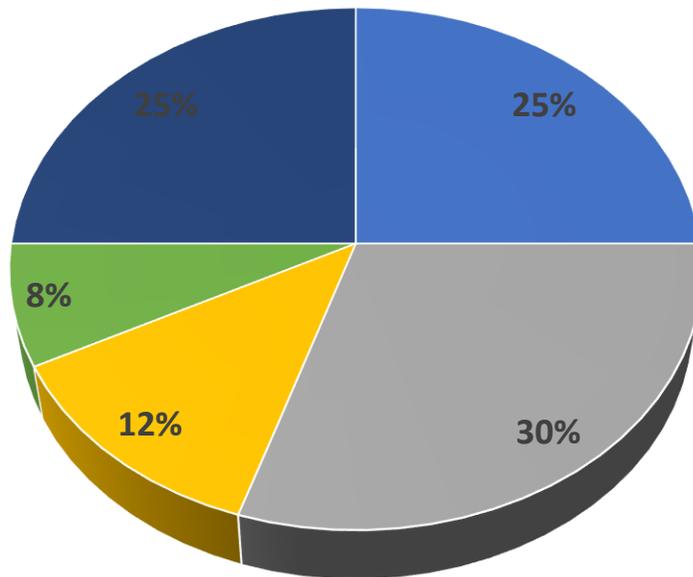
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Theft, Robbery, and Piracy at Sea



- Approches avec ou sans armes
- Approches suspectes
- Attaque/détournement non-confirmés
- Vol au port et au mouillage

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Theft, Robbery, and Piracy at Sea

- With 41 recent events of which 6 were identified as “acts of piracy” (4 boardings and 2 ship hijackings), the resumption of activity started last March remains low intensity and secondary in comparison to the same period in Southeast Asia and the Gulf of Guinea
- The resumption of piracy activity seen since March 2017 is lulling since the month of May, which cyclically coincides with meteo-oceanic conditions more adverse for pirates.
- This resumption of activity did not lead to the taking of commercial ships.
- Strict respect of BMP4 assures the security of ships that travel in the Zone.

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Maritime Piracy (cont'd)

- ❖ In 2010, the cost of Somali piracy to global trade was between 10 and 18 billion USD, whereas global trade along the routes affected by piracy amounted to 1.62 trillion USD;
- ❖ Tourist visits to affected coastal East African countries decreased by almost 6.5%;
- ❖ The total amount of tuna caught in these affected zones dropped 26.8% per year and annual fish exports dropped by 23.8%;
- ❖ The average ransom in 2011 and 2012 was approximately 4.9 million (USD) (Source World Bank Report)

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DRUGS

- ❖ Heroin trafficking is well-established on the African continent. According to a report from the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), smuggling and also the use of heroin is developing on the continent;
- ❖ At the beginning of the 1980s, "Nigerian smugglers, who have since become important actors in international narcotic trafficking, looked for heroin in South Asia, primarily in Pakistan, intending to send it via Africa onward to Europe and the United States" (blog of Christophe Champin);

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DRUGS (cont'd)

- ❖ Today, Africa is a privileged transit area for trafficking heroin and cocaine, "primarily because of good air connections from its countries." According to estimates from the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), approximately 35 tons of heroin pass through the African continent each year;
- ❖ This transit follows a specific path:
- ❖ "From Kenya, heroin is transported to islands in the Indian Ocean: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and the Seychelles. South Africa is used as a transit country for heroin shipments intended for black markets of southern Africa and Europe." (UNODC report)

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DRUGS (cont'd)

- ❖ Mozambique seems to have served as a hub for large quantities of heroin
- ❖ The Dublin Group, the European Union, the European Commission, and UNODC stated in late 2012 that information seemed to indicate that several tons of shipments of cocaine, heroin, and cannabis were unloaded in Mozambique in 2010 to be sent by sea to consuming countries in Europe and North America;
- ❖ Tanzania is also considered to be a hub for dismantling of a network with Madagascar, the Seychelles, and probably Mauritius. The more one controls these specific zones, other routes develop.

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DRUGS (cont'd)

- ❖ Revealed innovation, the establishment of consumer practices. According to INCB "There are approximately 1.2 million heroin addicts in Africa." Mauritius has the largest number of opiate users (substances derived from opium, including heroin). At the regional level, East Africa leads ahead of North Africa, Southern Africa, then Central and West Africa;
- ❖ Injectable drug use, a reality in 27 countries on the continent, including 17 in West Africa, is denied by politicians on the continent. It is however, a matter of public health, notably in relation to the AIDS epidemic which still ravages Africa. This drug generally arrives by sea.

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ILLEGAL TRANSPORTATION BY SEA

- ❖ Makeshift boats:
- ❖ Djibouti
- ❖ Madagascar
- ❖ Comoros
- ❖ Tanzania

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ILLEGAL AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING

- ❖ Surveillance of our borders and our maritime space should be a concern for all in that it is from these places that illicit acts and other other forms of trafficking arise.
- ❖ The losses caused by illegal undeclared and unregulated fishing (IUU) are considerable in the Southwest region of the Indian Ocean. They total 400 million USD on their first sale and at least a billion USD in transformed goods annually. Approximately 20% of total caught tuna comes from IUU fishing.

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ILLEGAL AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING (cont'd)

- ❖ In order to take sustainable advantage of their 6.4 million exclusive economic zones, states in the Southwestern Indian Ocean implemented a regional plan for fisheries surveillance (PRSP) 10 years ago.
- ❖ Eight states, of which five are member states of the Indian Ocean Commission and three continental coastal states (Kenya, Mozambique and Tanzania) are involved in implementing this plan. Somalia and South Africa have expressed their desire to join PRSP.

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ILLEGAL AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING (cont'd)

Current statistics provided by the Regional Program for Fisheries Surveillance (PRSP)

- ❖ 52 joint missions
- ❖ 1,297 days at sea
- ❖ 1,033.33 flight hours
- ❖ 501 boats checked
- ❖ 94 infractions
- ❖ 16 boats stopped
- ❖ 483 boats seen

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ILLEGAL AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING (cont'd)

A positive result of this regional cooperative mechanism against illegal fishing. "Some joint patrols under the supervision of inspectors of the 8 participating states registered more than 120 infractions, diverted more than a dozen fishing bouts and even followed more than 670 boats thanks to the satellite systems installed by the Indian Ocean Commission." (Speech given by Hamada Madi, Secretary General of the Indian Ocean Commission, during the official opening ceremony of the Ministerial Conference of the Southwestern Indian Ocean celebrating 10 years of PRSP.)

OTHER THREATS

❖ MARITIME TERRORISM

❖ CLIMATE CHANGE ESPECIALLY AFFECTS TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS AND PARTICULARLY MARITIME INFRASTRUCTURE. CYCLONES ARE INCREASINGLY INTENSE IN THE REGION.

❖ THE ENVIRONMENT: POLLUTION RISKS, ILLEGAL OR ACCIDENTAL DUMPING , ETC.

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CONCLUSION

We must prioritize regional cooperation to fight effectively against threats to maritime security. We must strengthen coordination and regulation on a transnational scale in order to fight the various illegal activities carried out over large areas and across borders, taking into account disparities in jurisdictions regulating territorial waters, exclusive economic zones (EEZ) and the high seas in the context of poorly delineated borders. To do this, we will have to strengthen our methods of observation, checking and surveillance in these different spaces. The role of regional and sub-regional bodies such as the African Union and regional economic commissions would be crucial, as would be that of other organizations for regional cooperation (The Lomé charter, AIMS 2050, various regional strategies (AFOA-OI, IGAD, CCD)....

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COMMENTARY, DISCUSSION, AND QUESTIONS THANK YOU