



THE PILOT PROJECT “CREATION OF A EUROPEAN COASTGUARD FUNCTION”

TASK 4: Capacity sharing, including the planning and implementation of multipurpose operations and the sharing of assets and other capabilities across sectors and borders



Presenters: Vytautas Lukas (Frontex) and Neil Ansell (EFCA)

Pilot Project closing Conference, 02-06-2017, Lisbon



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation timeline



2015

2016

2017

September

October

December

January

March

October

December

June

COM addressed EFCA,
EMSA and Frontex

European Coast Guard
Function Forum Plenary

EP adopted the Pilot
Project

Task 4 Multipurpose
Ops Concept
development

Task 4 Frontex –
EFCA stakeholders
kick-off meeting

Task 4 Frontex –
EFCA stakeholders
evaluation meeting

Pilot Project Interim
Report

Continuation of testing
interagency cooperation

Pilot Project final
closing conference
hosted by EMSA

Full scale
implementation in
cooperation with
EMSA, EFCA



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Methodology



- ✓ Practical implementation of the multipurpose operations at sea was prioritised in the Central Mediterranean Sea;
- ✓ Activities were planned and implemented using existing consultation procedures and operational platforms and structures;
- ✓ Also cooperation was explored in other areas (Eastern, Western Mediterranean and the Black Sea);
- ✓ The aim of the Agencies was to test as many platforms, procedures and information protocols as possible in the framework of the PP;



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Methodology



- ✓ Essentially a crash test approach was applied not only with the objectives of identifying and testing those with a specific utility but also in mind to best refine and enhance future activities;
- ✓ Validation of concepts enshrined in multipurpose operations and the cooperative mandates given to the respective agencies by way of the Regulations, notably chain of command, tasking and reporting and cooperation on the scene of action (SOA);
- ✓ Multipurpose operations were used as platforms also to integrate other services provided by the TASK 1 and TASK 2.



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Organisational structure and responsibilities

- ✓ All activities, including exchange of personnel and deployment within multipurpose operations and exchange of information/data were implemented within existing operational frameworks, namely maritime JOs for Frontex and JDPs for EFCA;
- ✓ Activities were steered by an Implementation Group composing of MS communities from Frontex and EFCA;
- ✓ During the implementation of the PP three meetings were hosted by Frontex and EFCA involving representatives from both communities;



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Organisational structure and responsibilities

- ✓ **Joint Maritime Interagency Team (JMIT)** was set up to coordinate the multipurpose operations composed of liaison officers (LO) by Frontex, EFCA deployed physically or virtually, and participating national Coast Guard authorities at the operational Centres.





TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Organisational structure and responsibilities

- ✓ Frontex Operational Plans and EFCA JDP have been amended incorporating interagency cooperation;
- ✓ Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) have been developed;
- ✓ The SOP also contained a tailored sighting report in used as the basis for the reporting of information by Frontex deployed airborne and seaborne assets;



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Organisational structure and responsibilities

- ✓ The regular meetings with MSs within each respective framework were used to report and update on PP activities;
- ✓ The operational concept for EFCA assets were the priorities laid down in the Specific Control and Inspection Programme and the JDP including the results of the regional risk analysis and operational priorities of participating MSs and EFCA.



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



The following direct arrangements were undertaken as support to multi-purpose operations:

- ✓ **Deployment of EFCA officials on Frontex assets (vessels and aircraft);**
- ✓ **Exchange of operational and other related data (e.g. sightings information, photos...);**
- ✓ **Deployment of Frontex LO to EFCA's operational centre during the BFT fishing campaign;**
- ✓ **Deployment of EFCA's inspector to Frontex operational structures and centres.**



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Information exchange

- ✓ All information was exchanged treatment in accordance with the agreed procedures laid down in the respective SOPs.
- ✓ In addition to the use of conventional reporting procedures, electronic procedures were undertaken where possible in order to expedite the data exchange and hence potential utility of the information.



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Information exchange

- ✓ All information was processed, treated and subject to follow up procedures;
- ✓ In 2016 during the PP two cases of potential IUU activities were identified inside Italian territorial waters as well as other cases from NW of Lampedusa;
- ✓ Besides potential IUU activities also several cases of possible sea pollution were spotted and reported.



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Results and analysis



Results and analysis....





TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Results and analysis



ANNEX A

FISHING VESSEL SIGHTING FORM

When completed send to efca-med@efca.europa.eu

(Copy to neil.ansell@efca.europa.eu ; vincent.chapel@efca.europa.eu ;

MED JDP Coordination room: +34 986 120 674

1,110 sightings

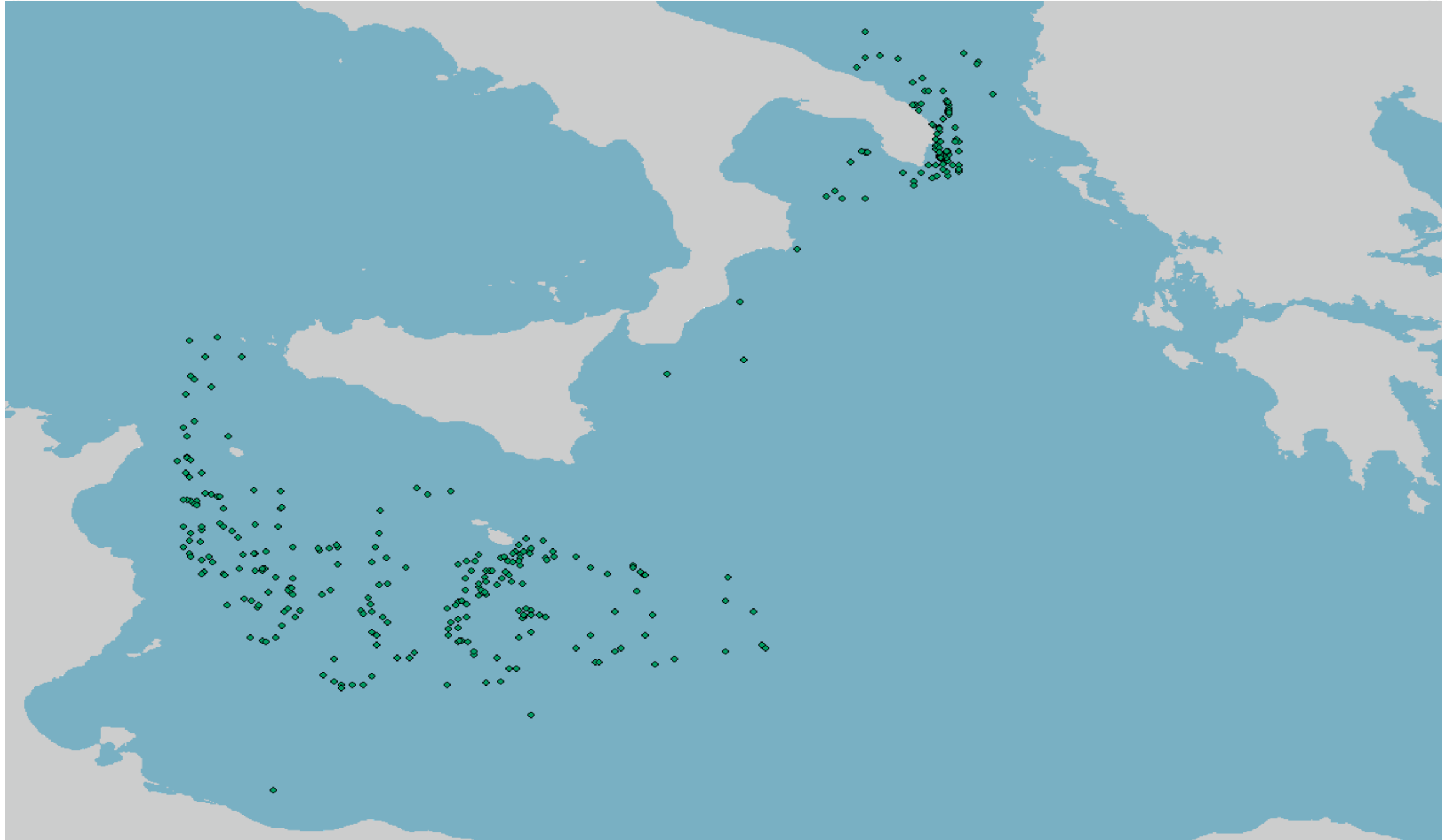
Frontex



EFCA

SIGHTING			
VESSEL NAME	Viking, (T61144)		
EXT. MARKING	Pictures attached		
POSITION	N 35 18,6 E 012 17,0		
TIME (UTC)	15:57	Date	29/05/16
COURSE	040 DEG	Speed	1kts
ACTIVITY DETAILS			
<input type="checkbox"/> PURSE SEINER FISHING OPERATION			
<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSFER OPERATION OTHER VESSEL(S) INVOLVED:			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TUG/TOWING VESSEL		NUMBER OF CAGES :1	
<input type="checkbox"/> DRIFT NETTER		<input type="checkbox"/> SPOTTING AIR PLANE	
<input type="checkbox"/> PROCESSING VESSEL TRANSHIPMENT: YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER VESSEL(S) INVOLVED:			
COMMENT(S) EVENT(S)	One boat towing cage.		
SIGHTING SOURCE			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AERIAL SIGHTING		<input type="checkbox"/> PATROL VESSEL SIGHTING	
PATROL MEAN ID			
OBSERVER NAME	Finnish Dornier 228 FWA		
RELATED FRONTEX JO	Triton 2016		





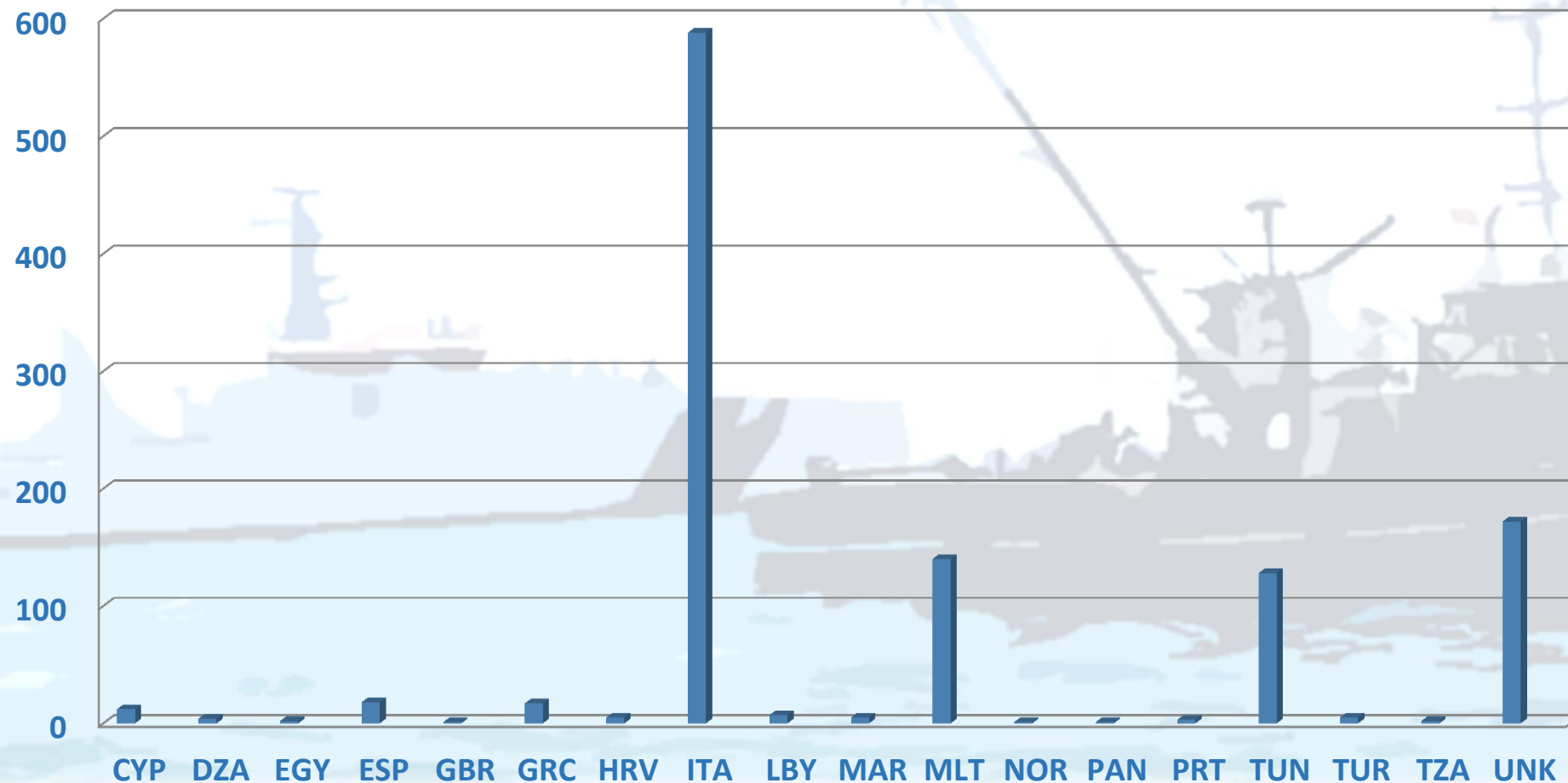


TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Results and analysis



Fishing Vessel sightings (by flag - if known)



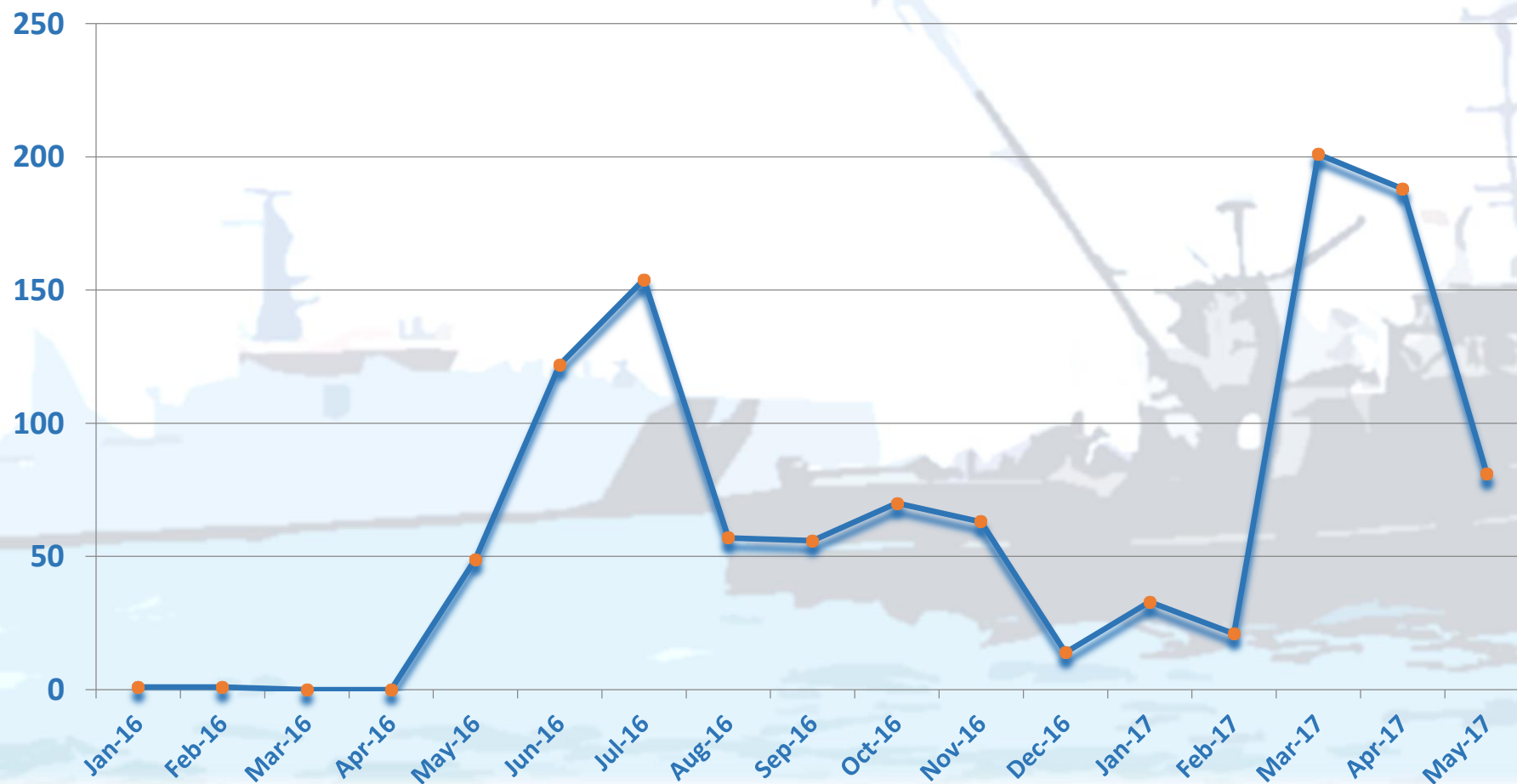


TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Results and analysis



Fishing vessel sightings (by month)





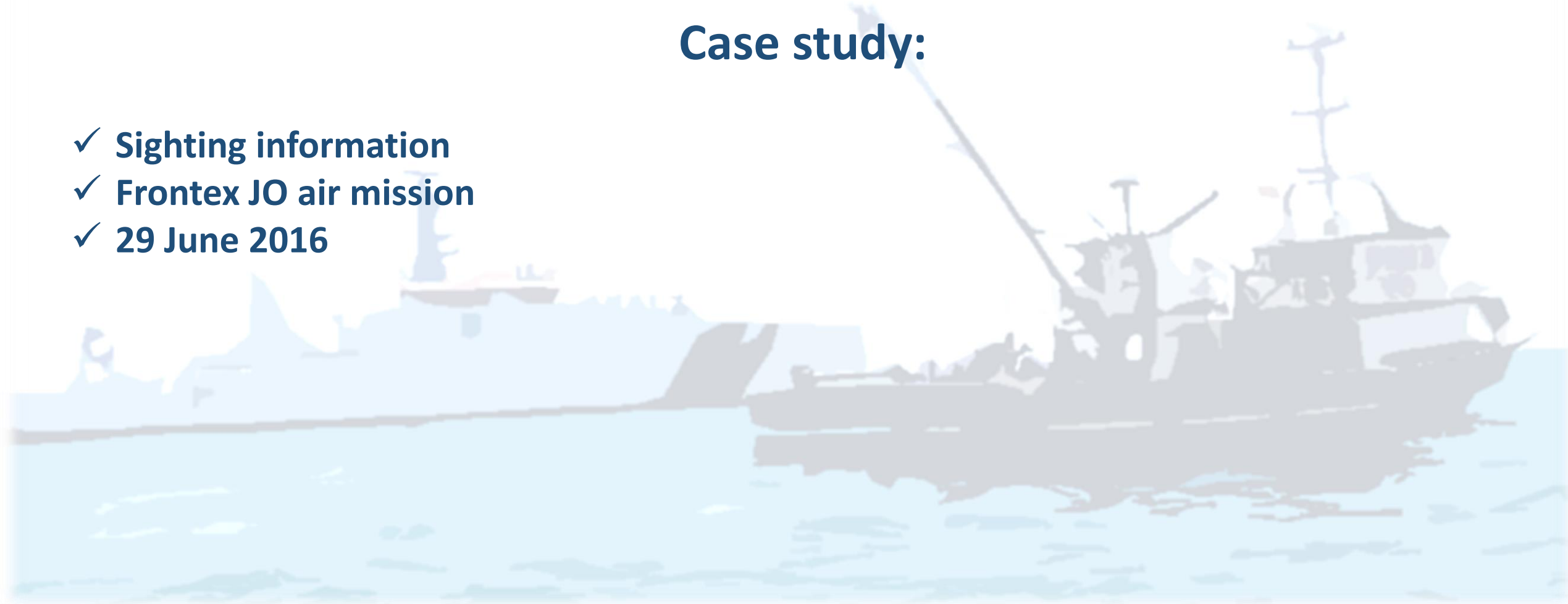
TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Results and analysis



Case study:

- ✓ Sighting information
- ✓ Frontex JO air mission
- ✓ 29 June 2016



CRAFT POSITION

29-JUN-2016

LOCAL: 19:09:17

35° 43.67' N

012° 09.70' E

RNG: 029



LASER PTR DISA

AUTO

COLOR

CCD

N H

CRAFT POSITION
29-JUN-2016
LOCAL: 19:02:28
35° 43.05' N
012° 10.61' E

RNG: 029



LASER PTR DISA



CRAFT POSITION

08-JUL-2016

LOCAL: 18:36:19

36° 21.51' N

011° 43.00' E



LASER PTR DISA

PCRR

COLOR

CCD

CRAFT POSITION

29-JUN-2016

LOCAL: 19:04:04

35° 43.46' N

012° 10.47' E

RNG: 02996 M

LASER PTR DISARMED







TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Implementation



Objects of interest:

Objects of common interest have been identified, these include:



Egyptian fishing vessel used for migrant smuggling JO EPN Triton 2016



Tunisian fishing vessels used for migrant smuggling JO EPN Triton 2016



Spanish fishing vessel used for drug smuggling JO EPN Indalo 2016



To summarize:

- 88% included a photo(s) attached to the report
- 5% were taken during the night
- 70% had a vessel name already noted
- 81 were finally classified as unknown
- A timely and direct reporting of such information is valuable
- Photos are extremely useful
- Where possible clear images of the name of the vessel and external markings are important in order to provide a timely follow-up



Mission deployment:

- ✓ 5 sea missions (from in Triton, Indalo and Poseidon areas);
- ✓ 8 air missions (from in Triton, Indalo and Poseidon areas) and 29 MAS flights;
- ✓ Sea missions included apprehension of potential illegal fishing operations as well as responding to SAR requests and other tasks as requested by the relevant ICC.



Operational Briefings/Exchange of experts:

- EFCA officials undertaken 9 briefings to ICCs and crew (Triton 7, Indalo 3, Poseidon 5). Content of briefings/presence include:
 - ✓ General presentation of the fisheries situation in Mediterranean (JDP)
 - ✓ Overview of legal framework for fisheries control activities
 - ✓ Presentation completing/transmitting sightings/information to EFCA and related procedures (SOP)
- Frontex expert present in 2016 EFCA Operations Room (bluefin tuna campaign, 06/16)
- EFCA experts in FSC in Frontex (05/17)



The Black Sea:

- 16 May 2017 Implementation of some Coast Guard Functions activities at sea
- 17-18 May 2017 Real fisheries control and border surveillance

Participating Agencies in situ were FRONTEX and EFCA while EMSA was involved via Vessel Detection Service (VDS) acquisition;

- ✓ Bulgarian Border Police
- ✓ Bulgarian Executive Agency for Fisheries and Aquacultures (EAFA)
- ✓ Romanian Border Police
- ✓ Romanian National Agency of Fishery and Aquaculture (NAFA).



COASTEX 17:

Multipurpose operational exercise implemented from 23-26 May 2017, Troia, (Portugal):

- ✓ **Building on good interagency cooperation Frontex, EFCA and EMSA were active in supporting Portuguese Presidency within umbrella of ECGFF with various activities in relation to coast guard functions;**
- ✓ **COASTEX 17 was Multiagency Exercise with the objective of identifying gaps and complementarities between European and National Agencies in order to develop interoperability between these agencies in the frame of Coast Guard Functions.**



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Conclusions



Conclusions:

- ✓ Multipurpose operations concept in order to support coherent and cost-efficient action tested and applied;
- ✓ Exchange and use of surveillance systems generated data;
- ✓ Testing and use of various information exchange platforms in a real scenario;
- ✓ Training and briefings successfully implemented;



TASK 4: multipurpose operations

Conclusions



Conclusions:

- ✓ Promotion of best practices applied;
- ✓ Exchange of operational data and intelligence in close to real time;
- ✓ Elaboration of standard operating procedures for PP and future operations;
- ✓ Shared experiences and inter-agency cooperation to be further promoted.



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