COPERNICUS MARITIME SURVEILLANCE

SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

The Copernicus Maritime Surveillance (CMS) service provides maritime surveillance support to international organisations promoting the European Union's Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and related policies and strategies. Activities in the maritime domain are often inherently transboundary, and successful operations rely on mutual cooperation and the exchange of data – including earth observation data – and intelligence to address issues of regional or global concern.

CMS SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS THROUGH:

- wide area surveillance with vessel detection and correlation of reporting and non-reporting vessels
- high resolution imagery to provide detailed information on specific vessels and activities for intelligence-led operations
- monitoring of shoreline activities.



International cooperation enables actors to share costs, resources and expertise as well as to address common problems in a collaborative and focused way. In the area of maritime surveillance, bi-lateral or multi-lateral approaches can bring significant benefits. This kind of cooperation is often coordinated through specific organisations or programmes established for the purpose of discharging specialised tasks. On request, CMS provides support to such relevant international organisations in consultation with and based on the approval of DG-GROW and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

The type of data which is of interest to international organisations varies considerably depending up on the type of programme, project or operation in which they are engaged. Services that can be offered comprise of the full range of image products obtained from earth observation satellites with Synthetic Aperture Radar [SAR] or optical sensors, as well as value-added products such as the detection and classification of vessels based on automatic algorithms (Vessel Detection System [VDS] data) and vessel position reports.









SUPPORT TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

USE CASE: SUPPORT TO AFRICAN NEMO OPERATIONS IN THE GULF OF GUINEA AND WEST AFRICA

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) manages a Global Maritime Crime Programme (GMCP) with activities in the areas of counter-piracy, maritime capacity building, and combating maritime crime including the trafficking of illicit substances by sea.

In West Africa and the Gulf of Guinea, UNODC has been working with local partners including regional coastguards and navies to assist states to strengthen their capacity to combat maritime crime. Activities include ongoing counter-piracy and maritime capacity-building, amongst others.

UNODC has been involved as a partner in a number of the 'African NEMO (Navy's Exercise for Maritime Operations)' exercises, coordinated by the French Navy. African NEMO is an operational cooperation exercise designed to bolster coastal states' maritime security capabilities in the Gulf of Guinea and support the 2013 Yaoundé process.

CMS has recently provided satellite imagery and value added products for a number of the African NEMO exercises, building maritime capacity in the region. During 2018, the CMS service was requested for the following exercises:

- African NEMO 18.2, 09-11 May 2018
- African NEMO 18.3, 24-30 June 2018
- African NEMO 18.4, 11 September 2018

In #CaboVerde - #UNODC MCP has supported a satellite led excercise with images from @CopernicusEU and in conjunction with Nemo involving Cabo Verde coastguard + the #Senegalese and #French #Navy #maritimesecurity #Africa



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Copernicus, the European Union's Earth Observation Programme, delivers operational data and information services to support a broad range of environmental and security applications. The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) is responsible for implementing the Copernicus Maritime Surveillance Service.

Get in touch for more information

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