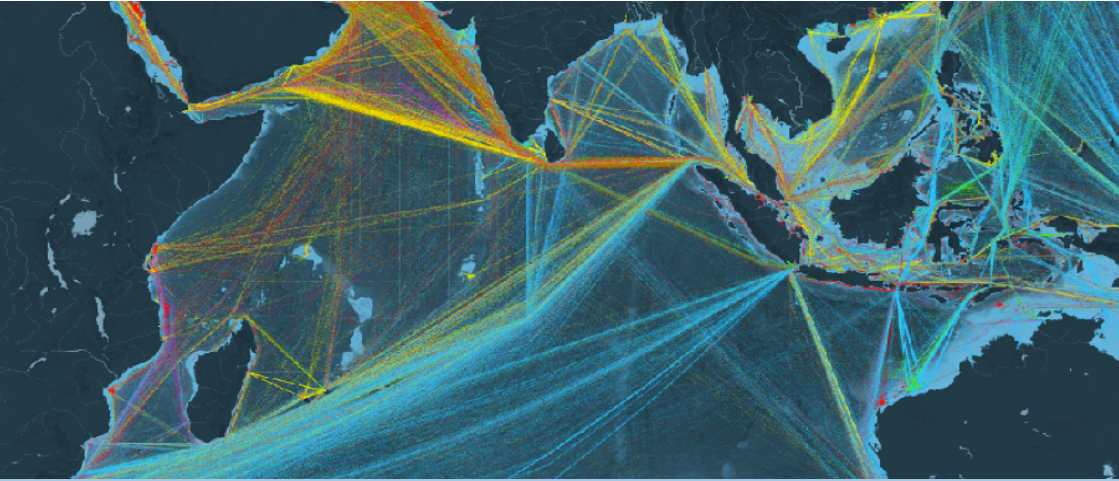




## CRITICAL MARITIME ROUTES INDO-PACIFIC PROJECT



Map © shipmap.org by Kiln.digital, with data from UCL and ExactEarth

The European Union (EU)'s maritime capacity building initiative **CRIMARIO I**, established between 2015 and 2019, contributed to enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) through information sharing, capacity building and training, in the Western Indian Ocean (WIO). This was achieved through the development of the IORIS platform, a maritime coordination and communications tool for the region, coupled to extensive training programmes on maritime data processing.

Since CRIMARIO I was a success, the EU decided to extend the project's geographical reach with the ambition **of inter-connecting the Indo-Pacific through CRIMARIO II** (2020-2025), also implementing law enforcement capacity building activities. This supports the EU's recently promulgated Strategy for Cooperation in the Indo-Pacific where the Union underlines its contribution to global maritime security, promoting an open and rules-based regional maritime architecture, from Africa, over Asia to the Pacific.

---

## COLLABORATING WITH THE MARITIME DOMAIN INITIATIVES

**CRIMARIO II was established to pursue two main objectives: (1) enhancing information exchange and analysis, and crisis/incident management; (2) strengthening inter-agency cooperation in maritime surveillance, policing, investigation and judicial matters.**

After a preliminary inception phase, CRIMARIO II developed its Work Plan in close collaboration with the EU and potential partners. Through CRIMARIO II's collaborative approach, interoperability is enhanced amongst national maritime operations centres (MOC) and information fusion centres (IFC), regional IFCs, and regional actors including the Djibouti Code of Conduct initiative, the Indian Ocean Commission, and the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium amongst others.

In this context, CRIMARIO II continues to engage with its traditional partners and seeks to build new partnerships with countries in South and Southeast Asia, Pacific and Latin America, including India, Japan, USA, and Australia.

**CRIMARIO II is a five-year EU funded project, with a budget of EUR 17.5 million (May 2020-April 2025), and implemented by Expertise France**

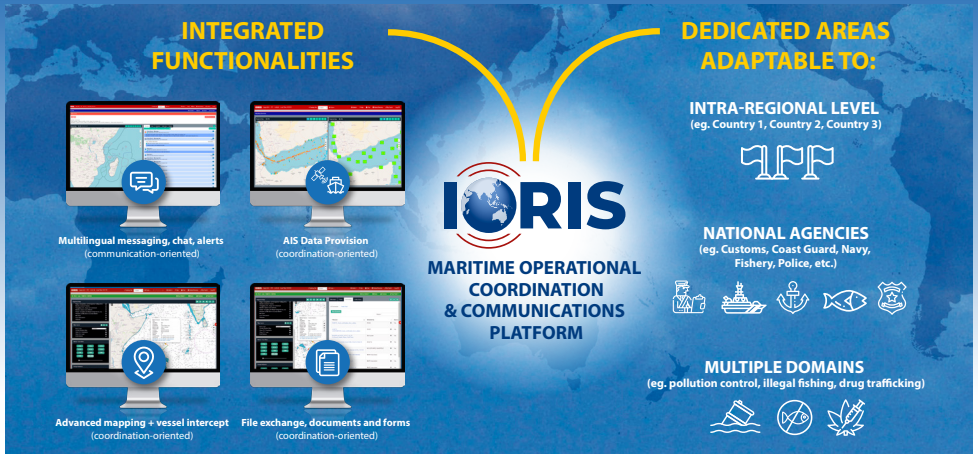
# THE SHARE.IT INTEROPERABILITY FRAMEWORK

Whilst IFCs and MOCs in the Indo-Pacific region are already operating information-exchange systems, there is currently no technical framework which facilitates the flow of information between these centres. In order to plug this gap, CRIMARIO II, in partnership with UNODC and Indo-Pacific IFCs has established the SHARE.IT interoperability framework, to develop maritime situational awareness. This is being accomplished by setting up a community of stakeholders with the ambition of developing a common technological solution, to be able to link existing information-exchange systems together, digitally and securely.

## INDO-PACIFIC REGIONAL INFORMATION SHARING (IORIS) PLATFORM

IORIS is a neutral and secure Maritime Coordination & Communications platform that enhances interagency collaboration and regional cooperation. Its functionalities integrate messaging chat and alerts; advanced mapping, vessel intercept, markers; file exchange, forms and document archiving; and the provision of satellite AIS data.

IORIS is today used by 36 military and civilian agencies from 20 countries and organisations across the Indo-Pacific. An ongoing training programme, delivered by a pool of certified instructors, ensures a smooth deployment of the platform. The next step for CRIMARIO II is to implement the Future IORIS Governance Structure, with a view to initially establishing a Steering Committee in 2023.



## ENHANCING MARITIME CAPACITIES THROUGH EXERCISING

CRIMARIO II is both organizing and participating in maritime exercises with the objective of enhancing and exercising interagency collaboration and regional cooperation. The IORIS platform is often used as the primary communications tool during the exercises in conjunction with other tools.

These events offer the EU's Indo-Pacific partners the opportunity to exchange expertise and experience with one another, and identify gaps in their national systems, in terms of resource deficiencies and procedural matters.

CRIMARIO II is also partnering in multinational exercises involving several countries and initiated by the key partners of the region (Indian Ocean Naval Symposium, USA, France and the EU's Coordinated Maritime Presence).

## MARITIME LAW ENFORCEMENT AND MARITIME SAFETY TRAINING

CRIMARIO II offers its partners in the Indo-Pacific the option to receive tailor-made training packages designed to meet the specific needs of individual countries. These could be in the fields of law enforcement, addressing operational maritime law, evidence compilation, forensics amongst other topics; and maritime safety, primarily addressing search and rescue and tackling marine oil pollution incidents