



# **EU Response and Support to the Regional Strategy against Drug trafficking**

24 April 2024

# STRENGTHENED REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION MECHANISM TO CURB DRUG SUPPLY IN WIO



**EU is an important and long-standing partner contributing to maritime security (including drug-trafficking) in the WIO**

- Improving the regional maritime capability – (MASE Regional Agreements and support to the Regional Maritime Security Architecture)
- Partnership between EUNAVFOR ATLANTA and 2 Regional maritime Centres (RMIFC/RCOC)
- Capacity building and provision of maritime domain awareness solutions and information sharing tools
- Support to National Coast Guards to undertake regionally coordinated operations at sea



# Regional Policy on Port Security and Safety of Navigation

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## Working with international and regional partners (UNODC, IMO, INTERPOL and IOC)

- Review of port security legislations to ensure compliance with international norms
- Port facilities security measures and risk assessment are enhanced on Port State Control inspections
- Security Enforcement in Port (Harbour Security and Narcotics Checkpoints)
- Port Control Unit – multi agency approach for cargo targeting to track illicit trade/drug trafficking.
- Regional mechanism to track suspicious cargo/persons



# Tracking and disrupting drug supply networks with appropriate legal finish



## Safe Seas Africa Programme – WIO region

- Consolidating the Regional Maritime Security Architecture (RMSA)
- Support regional legal base against cross-border maritime crimes including drug trafficking
- EU concluded exchange agreement with Seychelles for trial and prosecution of drug trafficking
- Capacity building of law enforcement agencies for trial and prosecution – policing, investigation and judiciary
- Coordination between the RMSA and Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC) to improve maritime zones of interest



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# EU ACT 2



EU-ACT 2



Funded by  
the European Union



- EU Global Programme fighting organized crime in general, and drug trafficking, in particular, along the so-called heroin routes from/to Afghanistan with a particular focus in East and South Africa
- Implemented by a Consortium of EU Member States led by Spain in collaboration with France and Italy
- The programme has 3 components

Enhanced capacity of **law enforcement authorities** to exchange information and conduct joint operations and investigations

Enhanced capacity of the **judiciary** to prosecute and adjudicate OC cases

Improved **evidence-base, knowledge and analysis** of the threats



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- EU ACT will work with partner countries to reduce drug trafficking facilitating regional and transregional cooperation notably in the following areas
  - ✓ Synthetic Drugs and precursors
  - ✓ Darknet markets and online trade
  - ✓ Money laundering investigations linked to drug trafficking
  - ✓ Cross border investigations
  - ✓ Information sharing and interagency coordination
  - ✓ Joint cross border investigations (law enforcement + prosecution)
  - ✓ Mutual legal assistance and judicial cooperation
  - ✓ Compliance with human rights drug related legislation and procedure
  - ✓ Increased participation of women addressing organized crime and drug trafficking





# EU ACT 2



- EU ACT 2 can also explore provision of support for **Regional Observatories** based in other experiences and notably
  - Strategic support for strengthening national systems and regional networks for scientific research on drugs.
  - Improvement of the analysis and incidence capacity of the National Observatories on Drugs.
  - Incorporation of the differential and rights approach in the information and investigation systems of the NDOs.
  - Development and strengthening of drug policy monitoring and evaluation systems.
  - Development and strengthening of national Early Warning Systems.
  - Technical support for developing fundamental aspects of the National Drug Observatories (NDOs).





**Thank you for your attention**