

CHAPTER 2

MONITORING, SURVEILLANCE
AND INFORMATION SHARING

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EMSA shall aim to become a major provider of reliable and efficient information services for the benefit of the EU maritime cluster and, where appropriate, for the use of other communities.

2.1 EMSA’S MONITORING SYSTEMS
FOR THE MARITIME COMMUNITIES

EMSA systems are increasingly evolving in such a way that information can be selected, combined and integrated. The on-going dialogue with the maritime authorities in Member States and with the Commission aims at supporting enhanced operational use of the information and a more customized distribution of data services.

Further changes in geographical scope are to be expected in coming years, as offshore explorations around Europe will expand, trade routes may shift or intensify, and monitoring capabilities are extended by incorporating emerging technologies such as satellite Automatic Identification System (SAT-AIS) and others.

EMSA developed and maintains SafeSeaNet, a collective European platform for maritime data exchange, linking together maritime authorities across Europe. This platform is continuously evolving to mirror the dynamic development of maritime traffic in EU waters and the needs of maritime authorities.

An evolving environment requires fast adapting systems, this will certainly apply to the Agency; in the medium term the Agency shall:

Support Member States by offering enhanced maritime systems and new functionalities;

Provide individual Member States with a fully configurable and adaptable platform (IMDatE) capable of integrating data streams for each Member State.

Explore, at a reasonable cost, viable and sustainable new capabilities of its systems, including all of the latest possibilities offered by new technologies, with a view to extending the Community vessel traffic monitoring and information system and update it in order to meet the goal of becoming the central system and platform for all maritime traffic monitoring and information.

The Integrated Maritime Data Environment (IMDatE) as a fully functioning flexible platform offering user-driven sustainable services on a longer-term basis to Member States will be further enhanced based on operational feedback from Member States. New capabilities will principally benefit the vessel traffic monitoring community.

The Agency will explore the possibility of using a wider variety of sensors using different platforms, feeding into its maritime information applications, offering better monitoring and surveillance services to Member States. These developments may contribute to the achievement of the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain.