

Workshop “CISE – how interoperability can enable safer, cleaner, and more secure seas” at the European Maritime Day 19 May 2022

Background information for participants to the workshop

Information about the workshop

During the [European Maritime Day 2022](#), EMSA will organise the workshop “CISE – how interoperability can enable safer, cleaner, and more secure seas” on 19 May at 17:00 – 18:00 CEST on-site in Ravenna, Italy and it will be streamed on Zoom.

Workshop content: The CISE workshop is held under the theme of **Maritime security** and a special focus will be put on the **operational use of CISE and its added value to Member States’ maritime surveillance efforts**. Based on the presented use cases, together with invited experts and the audience, we will discuss how interoperability among different surveillance systems can contribute to enhancing the maritime awareness picture and thus to more effective operations at sea.

The workshop agenda is in [Annex I](#) of this document.

Your participation: If you have any questions or remarks you can use the Zoom chat, some will be brought up during the discussion while others might be replied to already in the chat. For attendees joining the workshop in person we will open the floor for questions during the discussion part of the workshop following the experts’ panel.

In addition, you will be asked to participate in some SLIDO exercises. Simply go to <https://www.sli.do/> on your computer/laptop or mobile and enter the code that will be provided during the workshop.

Should you still have questions about CISE after the workshop, please do not hesitate to contact us at mss@emsa.europa.eu, and the CISE Team will be happy to assist you.

Information about CISE

If you would like an **introduction to the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) and its Transitional Phase** ahead of the workshop, we recommend visiting the [CISE website](#), where you will find a concise summary about CISE and the Transitional Phase. On the website you will also find a [FAQ](#) section.

The [CISE leaflet](#) also serves as a light yet informative introduction to CISE. A more comprehensive overview of the organisational, financial, technical and operational aspects to be considered when planning to join CISE can be found in the [Practical guide](#).

In [Annex II](#) you can find some useful information that will help you to join the workshop already with a basic knowledge of CISE and hopefully with some questions or comments to come forward with during the event.

Annex I

Workshop agenda

Part I **SETTING THE SCENE (30 min)**

- Explaining the format of the workshop
- Slido exercise
- Welcome by the European Commission
 - **Mr Christos Economou**, *Acting Director of Maritime Policy and Blue Economy Directorate and Head of Unit Sea Basin Strategies, Maritime Regional Cooperation and Maritime Security at DG MARE, European Commission*
- Introduction: Why is maritime CISE needed and what is the solution it offers?
 - **Mr Leendert Bal**, *Head of Department Safety, Security and Surveillance, European Maritime Safety Agency*

Part II **DISCUSSION ON CISE (30 min)**

- Short discussion panel and presentation of use cases
 - **Mr Alexis Blum**, *European Projects Manager (CISE / EFFECTOR / SKILLSEA / PANORAMED), Secrétariat Général de la Mer*
 - **Mr Rafael Duarte**, *Head of Sector, Unit Coast Guard and International Programmes, European Fisheries Control Agency*
- Q&A's plenary both in person and via Zoom chat
- Summary of the discussion and the workshop
- Slido exercise

Annex II

“CISE basics”

What is CISE in a nutshell?

The Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) is a network that **connects systems of authorities with a responsibility in maritime surveillance**. CISE enables them to exchange relevant information **across borders and different sectors** (maritime safety and security, fisheries control, border control, law enforcement, customs, defence, marine environment), allowing a better effectiveness in their operations at sea.

How CISE will contribute to Member States' maritime surveillance efforts?

CISE makes the **information sharing process easier and quicker** interconnecting the existing EU and Member States' maritime surveillance systems, and, thus making their maritime surveillance activities even **more effective and cost-efficient**. CISE helps to avoid duplication of data acquisition, and to increase the complementarity of the information and services delivered. Furthermore, it aims to enhance **classified and unclassified information** sharing among public authorities from different sectors, including **civil and military organisations**. Finally, CISE fosters **cooperation** and synergies among EU/EEA Member States, EU Agencies and Institutions.

How is information shared in CISE?

CISE makes already existing maritime surveillance systems **interoperable** by defining standards. It translates specific formats and communication protocols used by different authorities to the CISE data and service models. Importantly, no additional system is needed to share and use data with CISE and its decentralised architecture allows authorities to control to who, when and what information is shared.

CISE Transitional Phase state of play

The development of CISE was first proposed in 2009 and has since been refined and developed with the overall legal and policy context laid out in the **EU Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS)**. As from April 2019, the European Maritime Safety Agency EMSA is engaged in the setting up and enabling, in close coordination with the Member States, **the Transitional Phase**, ensuring a coherent evolution of the CISE network and to achieve an operational CISE.

During the first three years the CISE project has evolved significantly, establishing a solid foundation for its future transition to day-to-day operations from the legal, technical and operational perspective. Among the main developments so far is the finalisation and ongoing signature process of the Cooperation Agreement which constitutes a formal basis for information sharing between all the participants to CISE. Moreover, the new CISE node version 2 is being rolled-out in the network creating the infrastructure to exchange information for operational purposes. In June this year, the stakeholders already connected to the network will participate in a joint exercise to assess the technical and operational capabilities of the CISE network.

The duration of the CISE Transitional Phase is expected to conclude by December 2023. However, the actual start of maritime surveillance information exchange within CISE will be still possible during the Transitional Phase. On the list of future objectives of the Transitional Phase is among others creation of up to 30 nodes in total, design of new functionalities based on an initial set of operational scenarios, including surveillance intelligence services, and classified (EU RESTRICTED) information sharing.

How do I join CISE? The step-by-step “menu”

The CISE network and cooperation has already come a long way. As expressed by a stakeholder: “The table is set, dinner is served – now we only need more guests at the table.” The very reason for CISE is the actual sharing of information and therefore, welcoming more stakeholders to CISE and creating additional nodes is an important part of CISE.

Any EU/EEA Member State or EU Agency currently exploring CISE could follow the structured approach set out in [Annex III](#).

Annex III

The step-by-step “menu” for joining CISE

EU/EEA Member States’ public authorities or EU Agencies interested in exploring how to join the network, could consider taking the following structured approach.

1. Appoint a member in the CISE Stakeholder Group (CSG) or liaise with your CSG member

The members of the [CISE Stakeholder Group](#) are principal and alternate expert representatives designated by the Member States. Other members of the group are the Commission, EDA, EFCA, EEAS, EMSA, Frontex, SatCen and MAOC (N). The CSG coordinates the Transitional Phase and meets three times a year to discuss the activities. Attending the meetings is the key to be kept updated about CISE development.

The CSG will appoint experts to a number of Working Groups and Task Forces of the Transitional Phase.

2. Establish the “information sharing plan”

All stakeholders shall establish a plan for their CISE implementation and have a clear idea already from the outset what they will eventually share in the network. The plan should entail the following items.

- Define the services to provide and consume (CISE catalogue)
- Identify the legacy systems (ICT systems) to connect to the CISE node

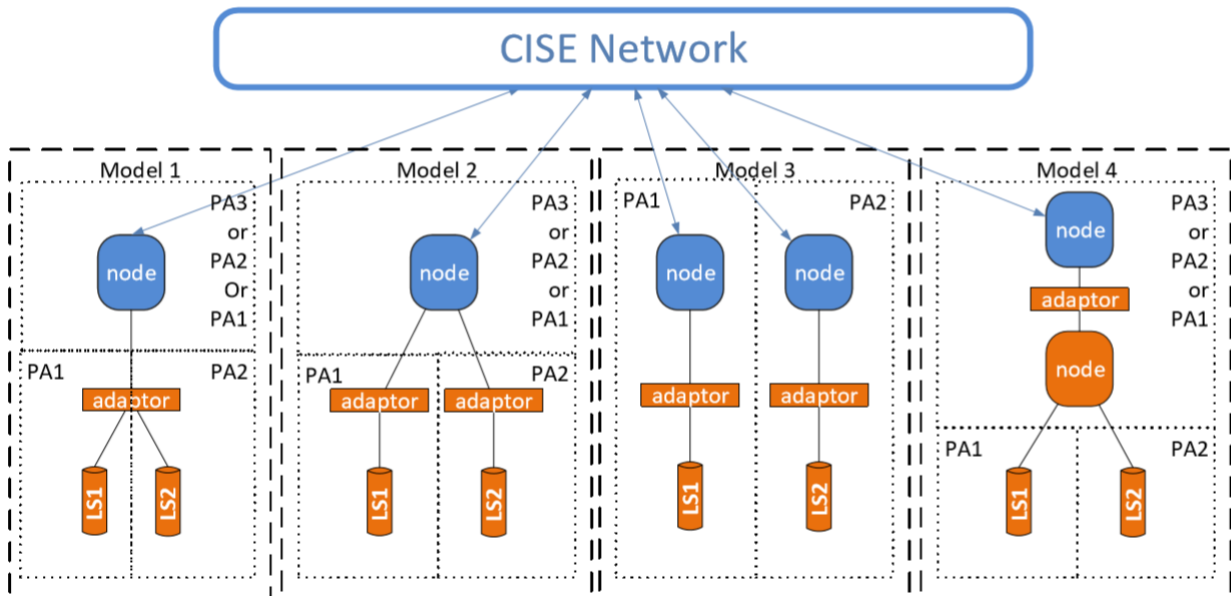
CISE currently has 28 different type services, gathered in a catalogue which is constantly updated with new information. Stakeholders should define which services they want to use. The decision could be made depending on which use cases they foresee for CISE. CISE enables three types of use cases as improving the maritime picture, target specific maritime operations, improving response capability.

3. Start considering some organisational and financial issues, such as:

Which CISE governance model could be used?

The CISE node and legacy systems can be set up following different governance models. The models presented below should be seen as examples of models. Other examples are possible, and stakeholders are free to choose a model that best suits their individual needs.

(PA = Public Authority, LS = Legacy System)



Roles and responsibilities

It is useful to identify early on the different roles needed for the running of CISE, which responsibilities that lies with each role and the resources needed. Key actors have been defined in the CISE Cooperation Agreement, such as **Participant** (a Public authority that wants to consume or provide information in the CISE network through a legacy system) and **Node Owner** (a Participant who is responsible for managing and maintaining a CISE Node). Stakeholders also appoint to EMSA a **Node Administrator**, a point of contact for the any issues regarding the daily operation of the Node. National IT-support services should also be established.

Costs and funding opportunities

What does it cost to connect to the CISE network? Since the situation in every public organisation is different, it is difficult to calculate a figure that works for all the partners. Nevertheless, it should be highlighted that the **CISE software** is free of charge for stakeholders. The Commission, through EMSA, is in charge to develop, maintain and provide operational support for the node software to the stakeholders. The stakeholders have to bear the cost for the **Adaptor** and its maintenance. The cost needs to be estimated case by case. It depends very much on the capabilities of the legacy systems and the CISE services you plan to develop. Stakeholders shall also bear the cost for the **infrastructure for the node**.

Activities that are supposedly at the expenses of the stakeholders can be co-financed by the European Commission through the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) that entered into force on 14 July 2021 and is running from 2021 to 2027.