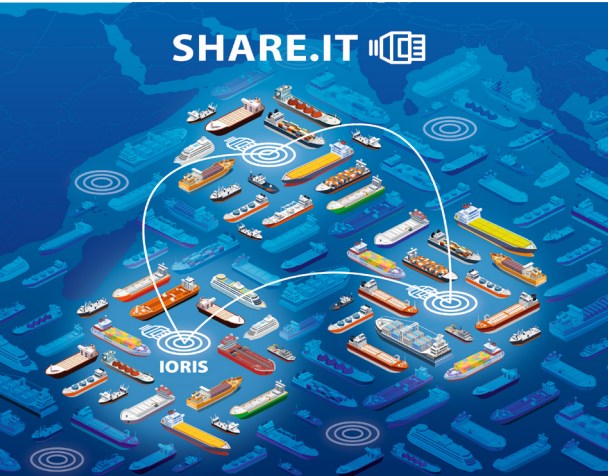# SHARE.IT:
EXCHANGING INFORMATION TO STRENGTHEN MARITIME SECURITY IN THE INDO-PACIFIC AND BEYOND

SHARE.IT

IORIS

Whilst regional and national Information Fusion Centres (IFCs) and Information Sharing Centres (ISCs) 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 bridge this gap, CRIMARIO II proposed a framework for Sharing and Enhancing Information and Technology (SHARE.IT).

SHARE.IT will link existing information-exchange systems together and therefore facilitate the exchange of information and data among different Centres in a structured, secure and sustainable way.

SHARE.IT IS:

• **Transparent:** the technology is open, developed jointly, and hence can be trusted by everyone in the community. No proprietary or closed software is used in its development.

• **Harmless:** the impact (e.g. performance) on existing systems is minimized as much as possible, and it does not pose a vulnerability to the systems it is interconnecting, neither to the information they entrust it with.

• **Complementary:** it improves system-to-system communication, and does not implement any feature beyond this scope, thus aims to enhance existing systems' capabilities, not overlap with them

• **Cost-effective:** it develops interoperability among existing systems in the most cost-effective way.

• **Sustainable:** after CRIMARIO II, the community takes over the technology and continues using and maintaining it. Running costs are minimized as much as possible.

SHARE.IT AIMS TO:

• **Connect** current and possible future systems

• **Increase** speed of communication

• **Provide** a secure and reliable system-to-system information exchange

• **Reach** any connected Maritime Operation Center and multiple authorities at the same time

• **Enhance** connectivity and trust among national and regional agencies

• **Enhance** analysis and assessment of information

SHARE.IT IS BASED ON 3 PILLARS:

THE COMMUNITY

Sharing information starts with connecting people. Every six months stakeholders get together and discuss needs and challenges and how to tackle them within the system.

To kick start the initiative, key players from the Indo-Pacific joined the initiative (i.e. the Regional Maritime Information Fusion Centre (RMIFC), Information Fusion Centre (IFC) Singapore, IFC Peru and UNODC). The Information Fusion Centre Vanuatu, the IFC Indian Ocean Region have been invited to join and other organisations can adhere upon approval of the members.

THE TECHNOLOGY

The technology is developed in order to plug in different systems together. Community members develop their own 'translators' independently, always ensuring an appropriate level of protection for the confidentiality, availability, and integrity of the information exchanged within the community. Besides cybersecurity, a strong emphasis is put on cyber resilience.

THE LEGAL AND OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

Legal and operational factors such as concepts and standards, data sensitivity and classification, privacy and data protection, are addressed by the community to facilitate the adoption of the technology, and the exchange of information through it. This process consents that, when it comes to using it, the community fully trusts the framework, which is based on agreed political, technological, legal and operational rules and guidelines.

THE PROCESS

SHARE.IT framework is refined by the community during a four-day conference twice a year. All stakeholders meet and work together to agree on the technology and the principles to apply to the framework in a so called «requirements conference». In the following months, the community members work separately on the inputs and meet collegially again in a "demonstration conference" to test the prototypes, check the results, update the necessary procedures, and guidelines. The framework is improved through iterative and incremental changes, to evolve according to the community needs, keeping up with the latest technological and legal community developments. After the requirements conference, the technology is enhanced according to the requirements and priorities defined. After the demonstration conference the technology is stabilized and experimented by the community, and is eventually put into practice interconnecting existing systems used daily for maritime security, thus enabling reaping its benefits in full. CRIMARIO II coordinates and supports all these activities.

SHARE.IT: strengthening the relationship amongst centres and consolidating existing information-exchange systems for the benefit of all stakeholders