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# Maritime security and Africa: Threats and frameworks for cooperation

Presentation to the Dutch Defence Ministry Visiting Group

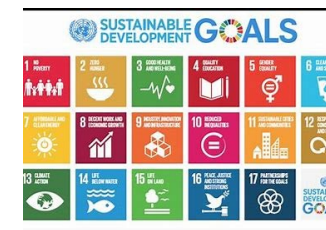
Stellenbosch University

20 October 2023

Presentation by Prof F. Vreÿ, Research Coordinator [SIGLA](#)

# Scope

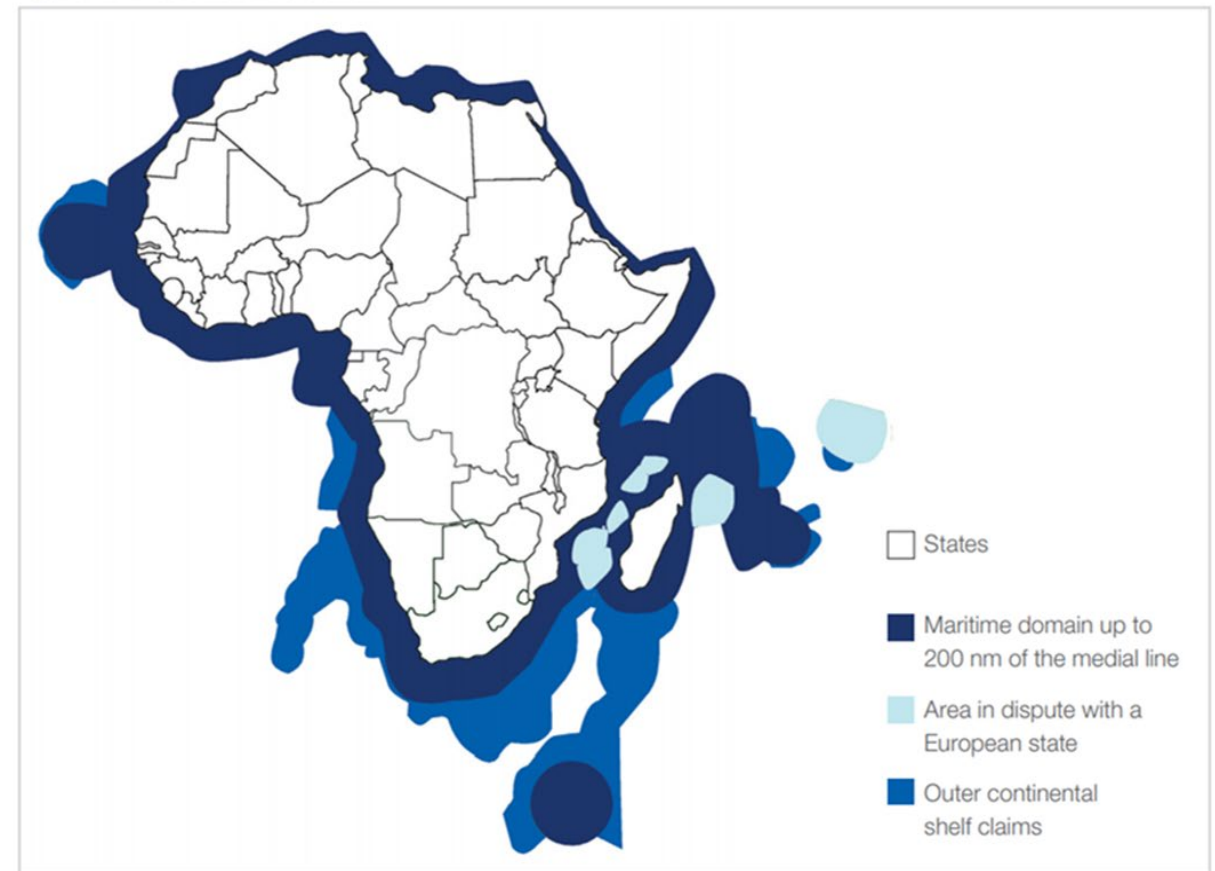
- Introduction
- Africa's maritime landscape
- Zones of insecurity
- Frameworks to mitigate maritime security threats
- Ordering the debate
- Framing the maritime security context
- Conclusions



# Introduction

- Africa has 38 coastal states ; 6 island states
- 18950 miles of coast
- Atlantic Ocean, Indian Ocean, Southern Ocean, Mediterranean Sea, Red Sea
- Controls or adjacent to 'four' key maritime choke points
- 49 million jobs in blue economic sectors
- USD 405 billion projected value of the African Blue Economy

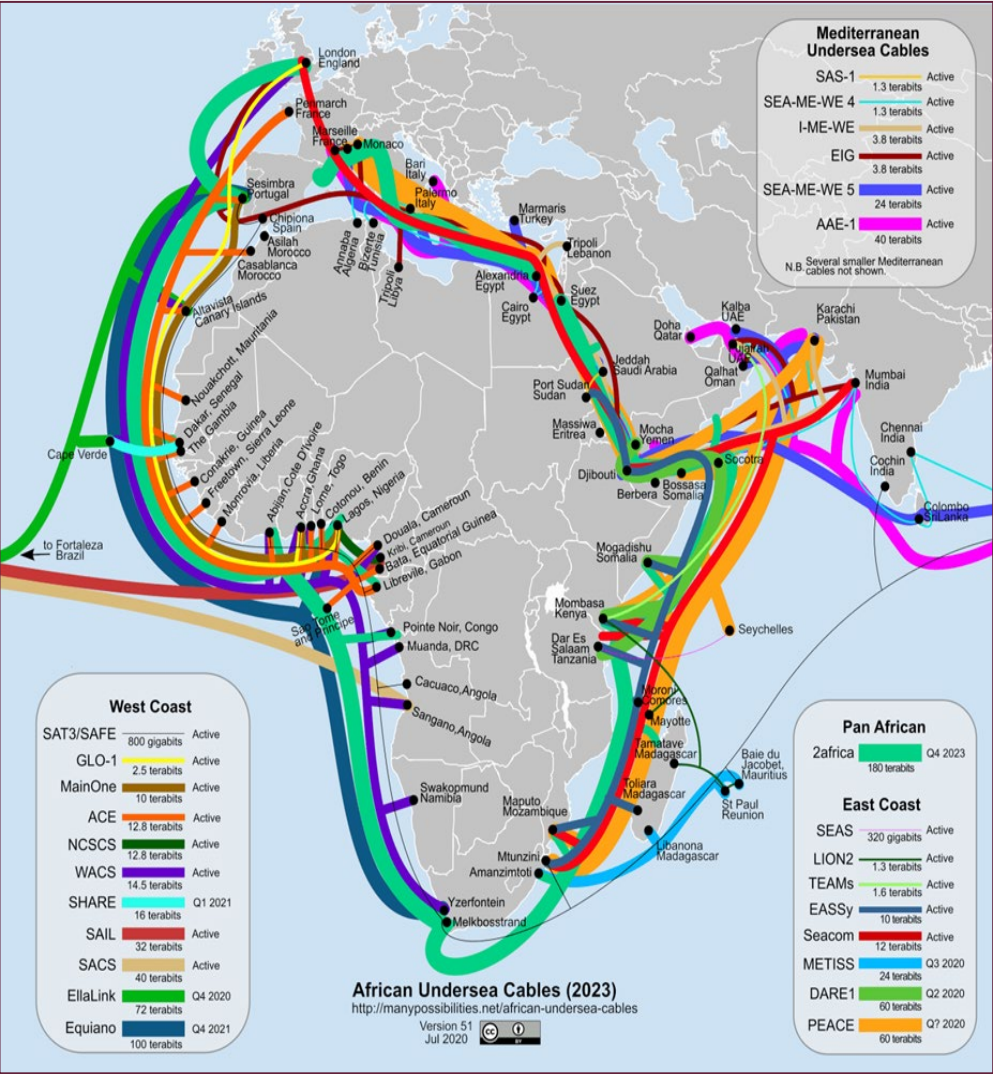
Figure 2: Africa's maritime domain



Source: Vrancken and Tsamenyi, 2017<sup>13</sup>



# Maritime insecurity off Africa



<https://www.submarinenetworks.com/en/africa>



<https://alabamamaps.ua.edu/contemporarymaps/world/africa/>

# HRAs & zones of maritime insecurity off Africa

## HRAs as maritime security management tools

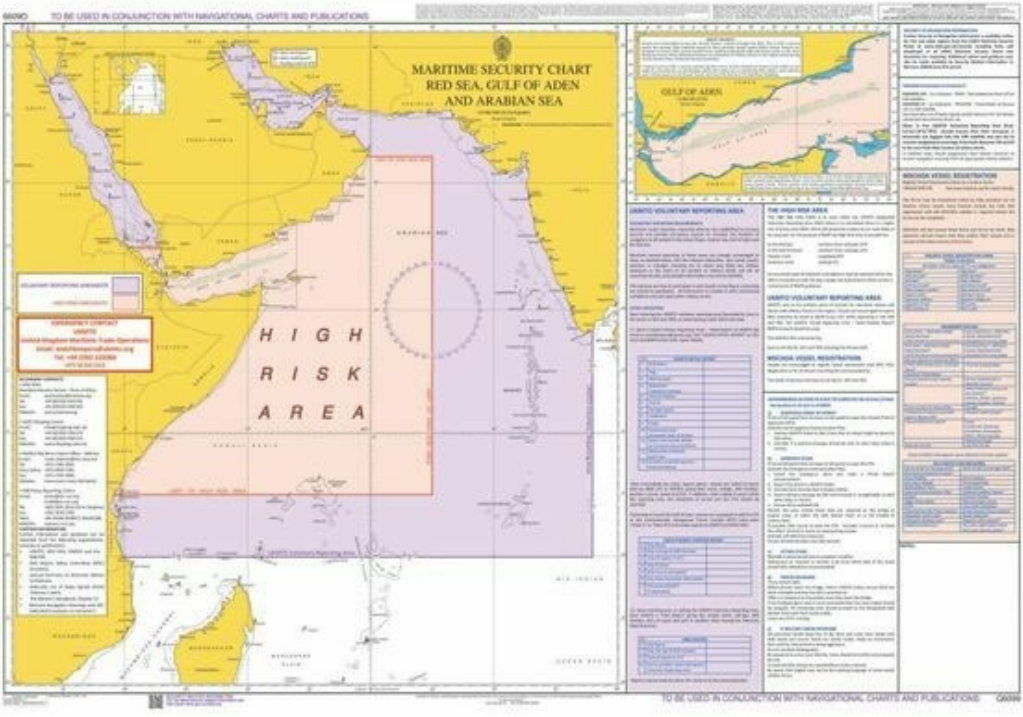
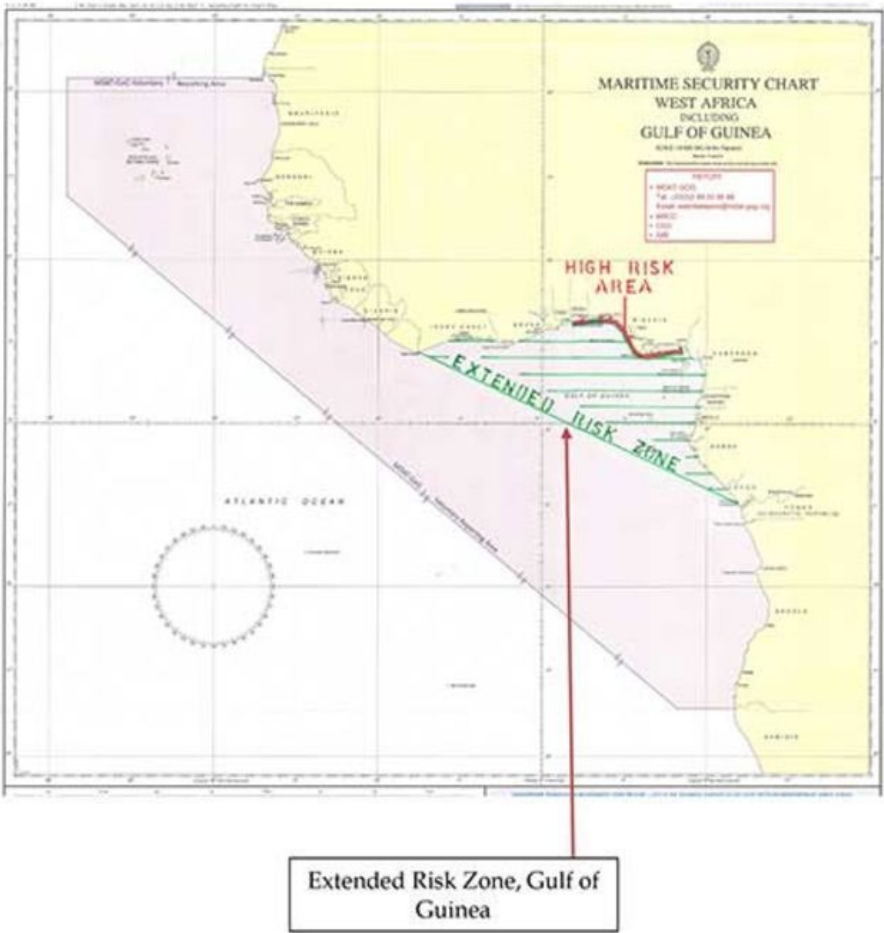


Chart 5: Gulf of Guinea ERZ





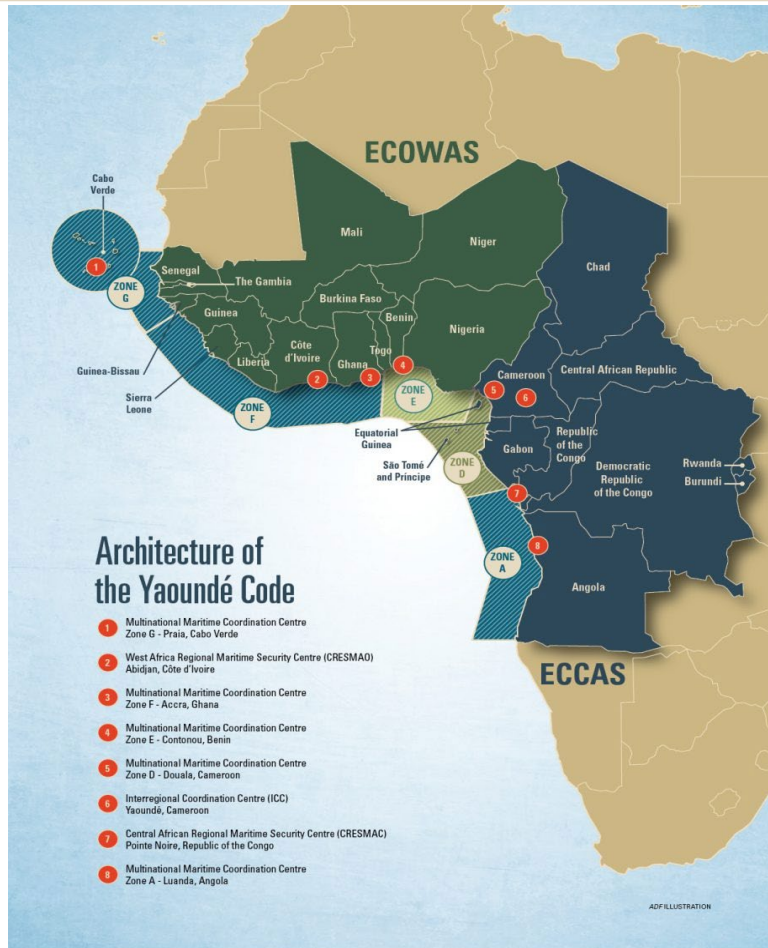
# Responding to maritime threats off Africa



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## Yaoundé Code of Conduct 2013



<https://sweetcrudereports.com/african-countries-adopts-the-yaounde-agreement-for-maritime-security/>



## Djibouti Code of Conduct 2009 & Jeddah Amendment 2017





<https://maritimecyprus.com/2015/11/19/%EF%BB%BF%EF%BB%BFi%mo-djibuti-code-of-conduct-regional-agreement-on-maritime-piracy/>

# Ordering the debates

Maritime security	Blue justice	Blue economy	Ocean health
Seaborne risks & insecurities	Equitability, Risks Access & revenues	Sustainable resource use	Ecological impact of human action
States Terrorism Blue crimes	Distribution Resource sovereignty	Resources Industry Environment	Human practice Climate change Interventions
Seapower Communities of practice	Treaty equality Inclusiveness Capacity for rule of law	Integration Regulatory Resilience	Integration of practice PPPs

[Bueger & Mallin, 2023]

# Ordering maritime security for Africa: The prevalence of non-traditional maritime threats

<b>Marine environment</b>  <b>Marine safety</b>	<b>Economic development</b>  <b>Blue economy</b>
<b>Naval warfare</b>  <b>Seapower</b> <b>National Security</b>	<b>Human security</b>  <b>Resilience</b>

[Adjusted from work by  
Bueger & Edmunds , 2017]



Less about seapower and naval warfare

Mitigation of non-traditional maritime security threats

Capacity building to extend rule of law over African ocean territories: Blue justice

Liminality & cross-jurisdictions demand complex partnerships for cooperation

Blue economic priorities through sustainable use

Ocean health for clean productive oceans for future generations



African Union. *Africa blue economy strategy*. October 2019. Nairobi, Kenya.

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Bueger C. & T. Edmunds, 2017. Beyond Seablindness: A New Agenda for Maritime Security Studies, *International Affairs*, 93/6.

Bueger C. & F. Malin, 2023, Understanding the intellectual revolution in global ocean politics. *International Affairs*, 99/4.

SafeSeas. Mastering maritime security. Reflexive capacity building and the Western Indian Ocean experience. A best practice toolkit. 2018 Cardiff University & Bristol University.

UNECA, 2016. *Africa's blue economy: A policy handbook*. Addis Ababa Ethiopia.