



Guardia Civil
Lt. Eduardo LEÓN

“SEAHORSE” PROJECTS: PRESENT AND FUTURE





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DEL INTERIOR



“SEAHORSE” PROJECTS



- SEAHORSE (2006-2008)
- SEAHORSE_NETWORK (2007-2008)
- SEAHORSE_COOPERATION CENTRES (2009-2010)

CAPACITY BUILDING!!!



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The problem...

SMALL BOATS

	Year 2003	Year 2004	Year 2005
Boats	942	740	567
illegal immigrants arrested	19.176	15.675	11.781
Boats' responsible arrested	225	283	140
Wrecks	13	14	2
Corpses	101	81	24
Rescued people	406	339	329
Missing people	109	60	38

Fiscal and Border Command



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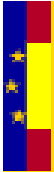
MASSIVE IMMIGRATION

<u>year</u>	<u>Ship</u>	<u>Imm.</u>
2002	-Ashva	111
	-Noe	223
2003	-Ocean King	20
2004	-Fullbeck	92
	-MT Conakry	53
	-MV Polar	176
2005	-Ile Dolonne	227
	-Menavaal I	140
	-Alianca	97

 **ORIGIN COUNTRY OF
IMMIGRANTS**







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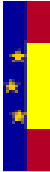


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THE NEW PROBLEMS



Jefatura Fiscal y de Fronteras



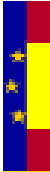
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CONTRAMEASURES

- **ATLANTIS. Programme Argo**
- Departure of vessel Rio Duero to Noadhibou on 15 May 2006
- **SEAHORSE. Programme Aeneas**



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The pioneer: SEAHORSE



Long term integral project (2006-2008), that combines actions on different levels (high, medium and operative), so that encouraging the cooperation of Spain and the E.U, with Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal and Cape Verde.



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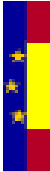
SEAHORSE



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		<i>2.006</i>	<i>2.007</i>	<i>2.008</i>
<i>Courses</i>	Immigration	34	35	40
	Maritime	25	25	19
<i>Joint patrols</i>	Morocco	90	90	90
	Senegal	40	40	40
	Mauritania	20	20	20
<i>Visits</i>	(officers)	13	10	-
<i>ILOs</i>	(Las Palmas)	2	2	3
<i>Annual Conference Las Palmas</i>		14 Africa	17 Africa	20 Africa
		22 Europe	23 Europe	23 Europe
		4 I.O.	8 I.O.	8 I.O.
		Total: 117	Total: 115	Total: 145

Jefatura Nacional de Fronteras



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SEAHORSE:

∴Objective achieved∴



“Better both operational cooperation
and mutual knowledge among the
law enforcements in charge of the
irregular immigration in the
Atlantic”

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SEAHORSE:

∩∩ Objective achieved ∩∩



SUPPORTING FRONTEX JOINT OPERATION“HERA”

Irregular immigrants intercepted in	2.006	2.007	2.008	2009
Mediterraneo	7.502	5.580	4.244	5.039
Canary Islands	31.836	12.473	9.181	2.249

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SEAHORSE-NETWORK



Specific aims

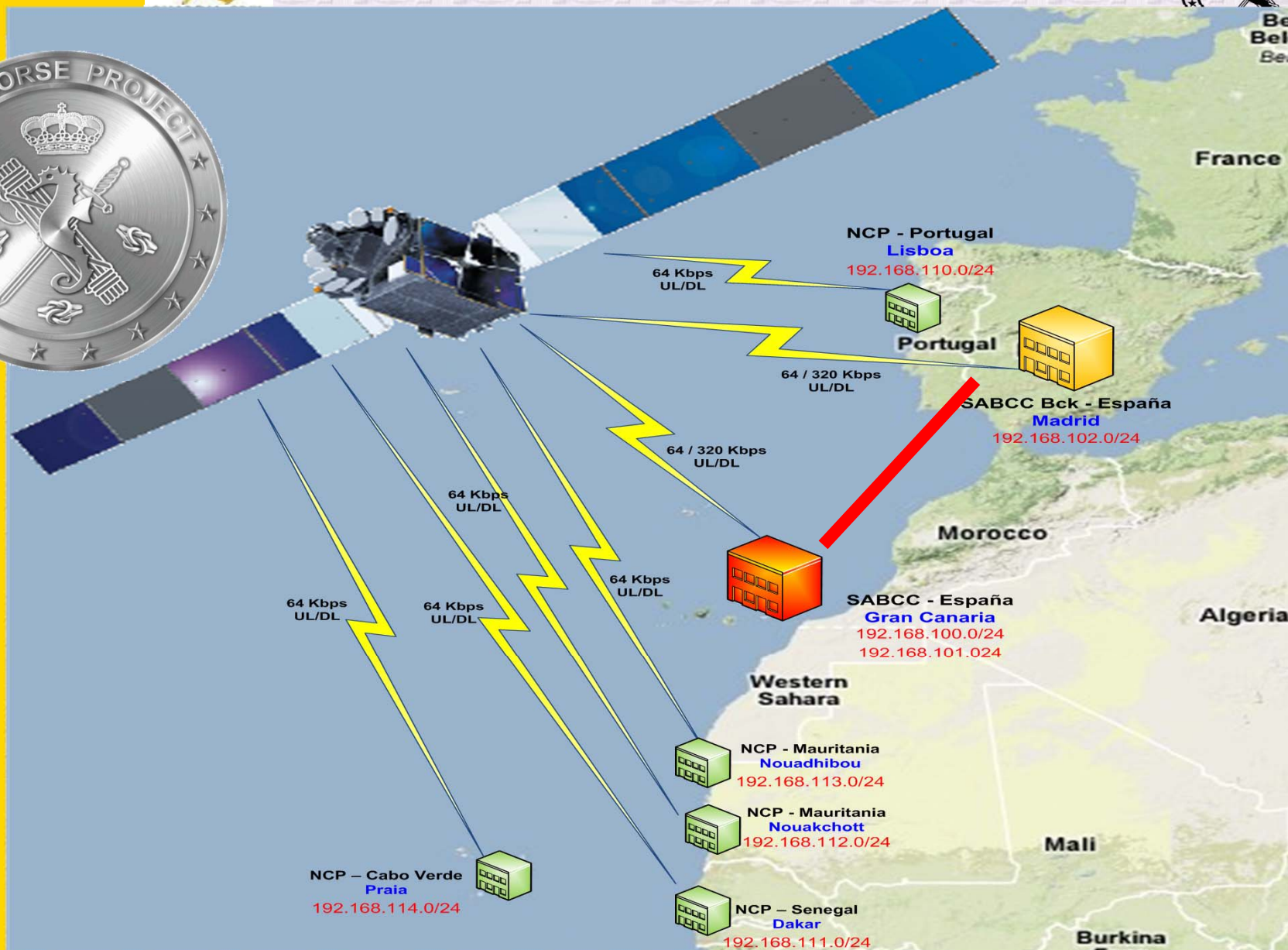
- **Creation of a secure network to exchange information (via satellite) to fight against irregular immigration by sea among Spain, Portugal, Mauritania, Senegal and Cape Verde.**
- **Establishment of contact points in each country, providing them with the required equipment and facilities to access to this secured network.**



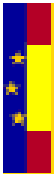
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SYSTEM ARQUITECTURE



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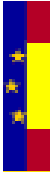
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CHARACTERISTICS



- **Secured communications**
- **Voice and data transmissions**
- **Multi-language interface**
(English, French, Portuguese and Spanish)
- **Centralized Database**
- **Protection of the local stations**
against non-authorized access.



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ELEMENTS OF THE APPLICATION

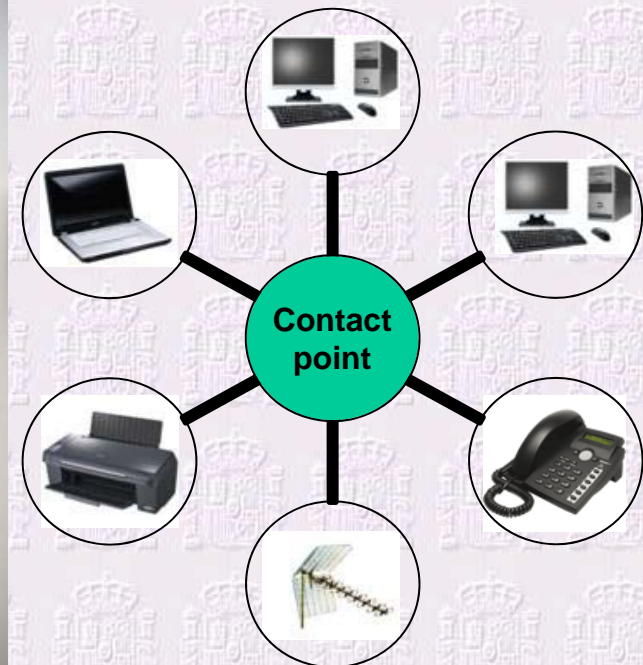


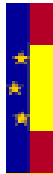
- **Documentary system for file sharing**
- **GIS (Geographic Information System)**
- **Chat**
- **E-mail**



Nouakchott

Contact point





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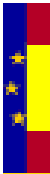
Cooperation Centers



Financial implications:

- 2 M €, Thematic program for cooperation with third countries in migration and asylum (former AENEAS).
- ½ M €, Spain

Development: 2009-2010



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SEAHORSE

Cooperation Centers



- **Setting up Cooperation Centres in those African countries with SEAHORSE PoCs.**
- **Setting up new SEAHORSE Points of Contact in others African countries.**
- **Coastal Surveillance Courses.**
- **Maritime Surveillance Courses.**
- **Strengthen Liaison Officers network.**
- **Euro-African Police Conference.**



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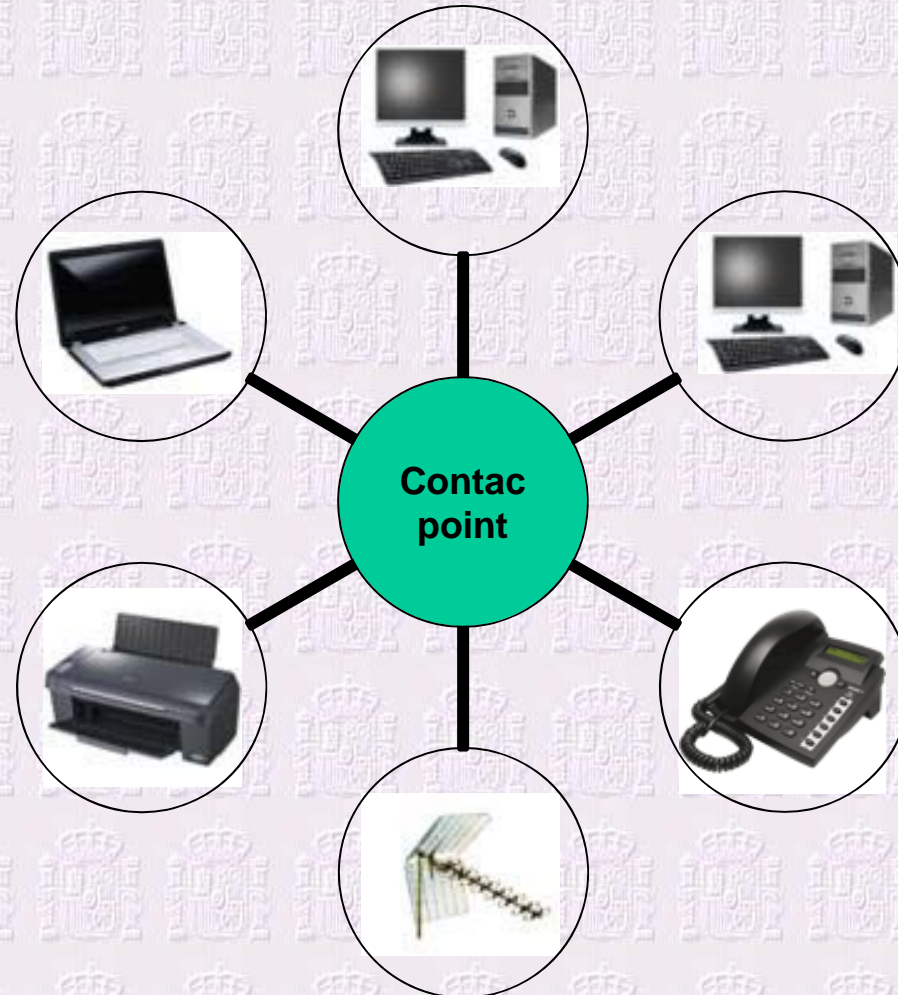
New SEAHORSE PoCs



–**Morocco**

–**Gambia**

–**Guinea Bissau**



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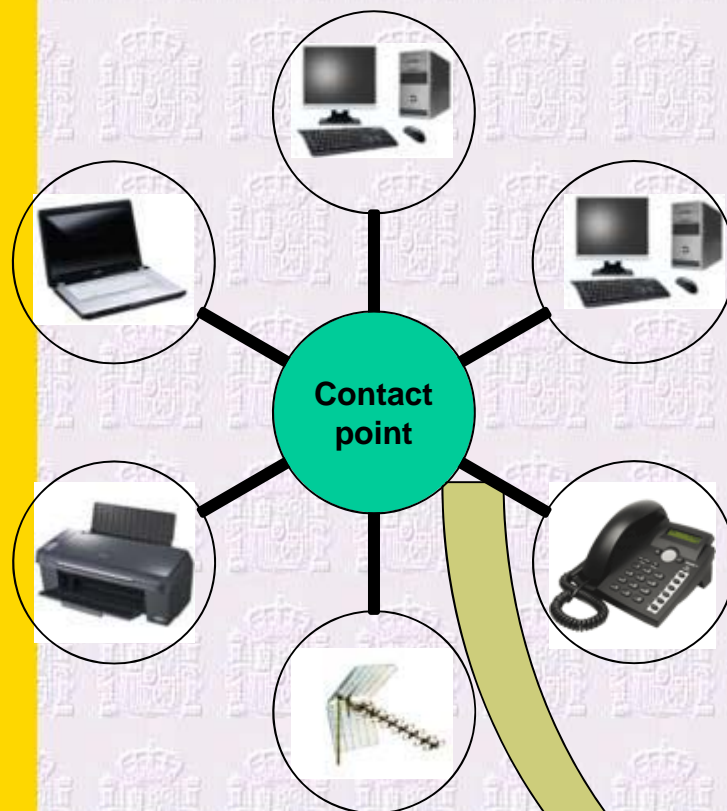


Cooperation Centres



AENEAS

MOROCCO - MAURITANIA - SENEGAL – CAPE VERDE



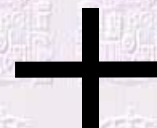
COOPERATION CENTER

COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

DATABASE SERVER

VIDEOWALL

SW GIS



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SEAHORSE-ATLANTIC

Portugal

Marruecos

España

Cabo Verde

Guinea Bissau

Gambia

Senegal

Mauritania (2)



seahorse@guardiacivil.es

SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



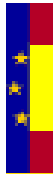
BACKGROUND:

Existing Regional Networks:

Baltic Sea Network, Seahorse Atlantic.

COSI Measure 4:

To improve operational cooperation with third countries of origin and transit of irregular immigration, in order to improve joint patrolling on land and at sea, upon consent of the Member State concerned, return, and collection and exchange of relevant information within the applicable legal framework, and other effective preventive measures in the field of border management and illegal immigration.



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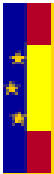


SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



SPANISH PROPOSAL

- Main proposal of COSI measure 4 WG is to improve the exchange of information and alerts in Mediterranean area by setting up a communication network;
- So, considering the current situation in the Central Mediterranean area regarding possible massive flows of migrants to Europe, SP has expressed its readiness to lead the presentation of a common project to the Thematic Programme for Cooperation with third countries in the Area of Immigration and Asylum (European Commission-Europe Aid) in order to establish such a network with third countries



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



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- For that purpose, during a meeting hold on 22 February 2011, at European Commission premises, SP presented a Concept Note to Member States for their consideration and possible comments. This Concept Note contains a proposal based on the Atlantic Seahorse Network model to set up a similar infrastructure to the Mediterranean. It is a starting point and, after discussions, it is to be adopted or modified among those MS wishing to be part in the presentation of the project.



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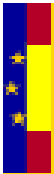


SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



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- In order to benefit from synergy produced by other projects, the presentation of this project could be done in connection with them to enable the MS engagement by incorporating a secured communication network in their respective National Coordination Centre (EUROSUR framework). Emphasizing this idea, as regards the MS, the project could be financed under the European External Borders Fund (EBF).
- In this sense, not only European Western countries but all Mediterranean MS are asked to adopt a position on this proposal.



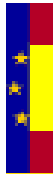
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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



- As an initial proposal, opened to discussion, SP has proposed Algeria, Tunisia, and Egypt as associated countries.
- Also Libya will be invited depending on its political evolution.



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



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The main elements of the Spanish proposal are the following:

- COM has expressed its willingness to support initiatives from Member States through a mechanism like the EBF and the Thematic Programme for Cooperation with third countries (Europe Aid).

There is a crisis situation in the Central Mediterranean and, so on, Spain proposes to use a system similar to that already works successfully (the Seahorse system SHA, already functioning in the Atlantic area) to connect with third countries in the Mediterranean, namely Algeria, Tunisia, Libya and Egypt if political conditions allow it.

This new Regional Network concern mainly to Mediterranean Associated countries and will work independently form another Regional Networks created before, as the mentioned Baltic or Seahorse Atlantic Networks



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



- Speaking about the Seahorse system, the most interesting characteristic is the combination of technical characteristics **that** make it compatible and possible for it to be fully integrated with other European initiatives and projects involved in border surveillance matters, in particular EUROSUR.
- Spain invites the Mediterranean first line countries (Portugal, Italy, Malta, France, Greece and Cyprus) to join this initiative immediately and present a common project under the Thematic Programme.
- Spain has already expressed its willingness to the COM to launch the project if there are, at least, a minimum of MS supporting the initiative
- **At this moment, at European level Spain, Portugal, Italy, Malta and Cyprus support the initiative.**



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



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- SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO NETWORK will be based on contact points (NCP) in each country that will be connected by Hi-Tech in order to achieve a rapid and secure exchange of information. The network, as a preliminary step, will be managed by a National Coordination Centre of a participating MS. This could be known as the Mediterranean Border Cooperation Centre (MEBOCC).
- From this MEBOCC and by using the NCCs of participating Member States as a 'gateway', neighbouring third countries could provide and receive information to and from the EUROSUR network via the participating Member State. The main goal will be the exchange of information regarding the monitoring of suspect sea traffic, shallops or sailboats as well as the use of fishing boats or big vessels, with the purpose of carrying illegal immigrants to the EU.



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



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- Following the model created in the Atlantic Seahorse, the MEBOCC could be used as International Coordination Centre during the implementation of joint patrols coordinated by Frontex.
- The MEBOCC could be the place where Liaison Officers from third countries and from MS will be deployed in order to facilitate the exchange of information, like in the Canary Islands in the context of the HERA joint operation.



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



- **At European level an Agreement has been reached in the sense that the MEBOCC and its back up will be located in Italy and Malta**
- The added value to be obtained is that by the mentioned project, the costs of the MEBOCC, the connection to MS National Coordination Centres (EUROSUR), the National Contact Point in third countries, the rent of a secure Satellite bandwidth, and the deployment of Liaison Officers from MS and third countries can be covered by EU funds.



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SEAHORSE MEDITERRANEO



BENEFITS FOR ASSOCIATED THIRD COUNTRIES:

- They will have the chance to exchange information through a secure system with all EUROSUR Members (European Mediterranean countries)
- Infrastructure of their National Coordination Centers will be improved



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QUESTIONS?