

CISE Transitional Phase: Activities

1. Introduction

The Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the European maritime domain is an initiative fostering sharing of information between maritime authorities, across sectors and borders, aiming to enable their enhanced maritime awareness and more effective action at sea.

CISE is promoting a voluntary and decentralised framework for these exchanges. The commitment of the Member States as information providers will be essential for the effectiveness of CISE.

CISE cannot exist in isolation and should bring added value and complementarity to existing maritime data system, services and sharing processes. It should be seen as part of a more comprehensive information and exchange framework across the EU.

The Commission is putting in place a preparatory action for the operational implementation of the CISE. Supporting the transition to operations, the main objective of the preparatory action should be to further support MS efforts to as far as possible implement the CISE interoperability building blocks in their systems (considering those developed and tested in EUCISE2020 project). It also aims to work towards coherence of CISE with the overall European maritime surveillance framework and maritime information systems.

The European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) will be tasked in setting up and coordinating the preparatory action (as from now called the “transitional phase”), subject to the agreement of its Administrative Board, in accordance with the EMSA Regulation¹.

The transitional phase may be also addressed among EMSA, EFCA and ECGBA in the framework of the interagency cooperation on coast guard functions, to ensure coherence with related activities for information-sharing and maritime surveillance.

The Joint Research Centre of the Commission (JRC) will support the work carried out under the transitional phase by providing its scientific and technical advice, in view of its long-term involvement in the CISE.

The Commission presented its proposal for the transitional phase in a concept note that was discussed at the MSEG on 25 September 2018. This follow-up paper aims to provide further information on the transitional phase, notably on the activities to be carried out in order to further support the MS in the transitional phase and to prepare the operational phase post-2020.

The proposed governance for the transitional phase is presented in a separate paper ("CISE Transitional phase: governance structure").

The participation in the transitional phase is open to all Member States.

¹ Reg 1406/2002

2. Objectives

The main objectives of the CISE transitional phase are to:

- evaluate, and if appropriate streamline, maintain and consolidate the CISE network and interoperability building blocks resulting from the EUCISE2020 project;
- work towards complementarity of information sharing and interoperability with existing EU maritime surveillance systems;
- define and configure additional data exchange services required in the current pre-operational CISE network;
On the basis of the above
- define the baseline for CISE for post-2020 operations.

This would imply pursuing the following specific objectives to:

- facilitate technical, operational and administrative coordination among the CISE stakeholders;
- support technical and operational activities for the CISE stakeholders;
- enable the deployment of relevant CISE information services complementary with existing EU maritime surveillance systems;
- maintain and refine the CISE interoperability building blocks within the overall maritime surveillance framework at national and EU level;
- increase the number of authorities participating in CISE (beyond the ones involved in EUCISE2020);
- define CISE operating procedures, considering the “responsibility to share” principle;
- enable the evolution of the CISE components and interoperability requirements;
- support the CISE standardisation process;
- prepare the ground and initiate the network certification process.

3. Activities

The scope of this section is to describe the activities to be carried out respectively by EMSA, JRC, and the Member States authorities during the transitional phase. The CISE Stakeholders Group (c.f. CISE Transitional Phase: Governance Structure) will be entrusted with the implementation of the activities under points 2 below.

The management of the transitional phase will be entrusted to EMSA through a Grant Agreement (GA). To ensure a progressive transfer of knowledge to EMSA, in 2019 JRC will provide technical and scientific advice to MS authorities that is then planned to be taken over by EMSA gradually in 2020.

3.1. Initial activities

To enable the transitional phase to make use, as far as possible, of the results of the EUCISE2020 project, the Commission and the Member States participating in the EUCISE2020 consortium will ensure the transfer from the EUCISE2020 of the Intellectual Property Rights or at least obtain a multiuser license to develop and maintain the software of the common interoperability building blocks (including the source code), especially for the CISE node (Core and Common services) for the duration of the transitional phase with a view to be automatically extended for the CISE operational phase.

3.2. Activities to be carried out by EMSA in cooperation with the JRC

EMSA in cooperation with the JRC will perform, and when necessary sub-contract, the following main activities during the transitional phase:

- **Lessons learnt from EUCISE2020.** Analyse the deliverables of EUCISE2020, including the software and documentation for the installation of the common software components.
- **Coordinate the CISE Stakeholders Group.** Facilitate the governance of the transitional phase (*c.f.* CISE Transitional Phase: Governance Structure).

Specific activities:

- chair, coordinate and provide the secretariat in support of the CISE Stakeholder Group;
- provide administrative support;
- maintain the project library;
- establish a collaborative platform for exchanging documents and information.
- **Project Management.** In coordination with the Stakeholders Group, EMSA will set up a plan and manage the activities to achieve the transitional phase objectives.
- **Technical and Operational support.** Technical support to the MS for enabling or keeping up and running the CISE network.

Specific activities:

- provide operational support during working hours (i.e. incident, problem and release management) to MS authorities for maintaining existing or configuring new services, building on the results of the EUCISE2020 project;
- provide technical support for the implementation, deployment, integration, and tests (including the development of the CISE's compliance suite) of new CISE services in existing or new adaptors;
- provide technical support for the deployment and test of two additional nodes (indicative number);
- maintain the common building blocks software implemented during EUCISE2020. It is not envisaged in the transitional phase to implement new node's requirements, functionalities or any changes that can impact the existing national adaptors.
- review and keep updated the CISE architecture as well as follow up on the standardisation process.

- **Implement the EMSA node.** Install and configure the EMSA node, and design, implement, deploy, and test EMSA adaptor to exchange data through the CISE network. This work will be essential to create a link enabling complementarity/interoperability with information sharing undertaken by existing maritime surveillance systems at EU level.
- **Training and Best Practices.** In collaboration with the CISE Stakeholders Group, define the training needs and preparatory steps for designing possible training modules, and facilitate the sharing of best practices and lessons learnt.
- **Conduct a study for an audit on the implementation of the "responsibility to share" principle.** The study should aim to define a methodology/baseline for an audit that should support the Member States to implement the "responsibility to share" policy by identifying weaknesses and gaps and proposing suitable measures for mitigation or improvement.
- **Establishment of the administrative framework.** In collaboration with the CISE Stakeholder Group members, draft the necessary administrative agreements supporting the operational exchange of information.
- **Conduct a security study** in cooperation with the Stakeholder Group to prepare the ground for the certification process.

These activities will be further refined within the CISE Stakeholder Group.

3.3. Activities to be carried out by the Member States

Based on each Member State's specific background on CISE, their involvement during the development of CISE (2014-2018), and their needs and plans for information exchange, each Member State / Authority could work on one or more of the following activities:

- **Coordination activities:** participate in the coordination of the transitional phase in the context of the CISE Stakeholder Group.
Specific activities:
 - Appoint representatives to participate in the CISE Stakeholder Group whereas requested in the Terms of Reference of the "CISE Transitional Phase: Governance Structure";
 - Appoint representatives for the main roles in each CISE Node (manager, administrators, etc.);
 - Perform the tasks and activities defined by the CISE Stakeholder Group;
 - Set-up the CISE operating procedures, considering the "responsibility to share" principle.
- **Maintenance activities:** maintain the hardware, software, configuration and infrastructure already deployed at national level in the Member States' facilities during the EUCISE2020 project.
Specific activities:
 - Maintain the adaptors of the maritime surveillance systems (legacy systems).
 - Maintain the CISE Nodes.
 - Maintain the CISE network (connections with the other nodes).

- Provide the daily operation support of the CISE nodes and adaptors.
- **Development activities:** further develop the existing information exchange network created in the EUCISE2020 project.

Specific activities:

- Update the software of the national maritime surveillance systems (MS legacy systems), if required.
- Establish network connections with other partners, provide the necessary hardware, and manage the security configuration.
- Deploy a CISE node, providing the necessary hardware, virtual infrastructure, and install the software.
- Design, develop, deploy and test new CISE services in new or existing adaptors.
- **Operational activities:** ensure alignment between the operational needs and procedures, and the CISE interoperability building blocks.

Specific activities:

- Conduct feasibility studies.
- Participate in the drafting of new agreements for information exchange with the other CISE partners.
- Prepare and initiate the certification of their node

These activities will be further refined within the Stakeholders Group.

4. Financing

The activities to be performed during the transitional phase, detailed above, will be financed from different sources, as follows:

Activities to facilitate the maintenance and consolidation of the common components:

- Grant Agreement (GA) to EMSA for the period 2019-2020 will support the activities specified in section “3.2. Activities to be carried out by EMSA in cooperation with the JRC”. The total amount of the GA is 3.5 million EUR from the EMFF.

Activities enabling the maintenance and consolidation of the national components:

- The Commission will use the funds allocated in 2018 for the CISE action within the ISA2 programme to support part of the “Development activities” (detailed in section “3. Activities to be carried out by the Member States”), by procuring and managing the resources (business analysts, software developers, etc.), required to design, develop, deploy and test new CISE services in existing or new adaptors for the Member States’ authorities. The total amount of this funding action is 950K EUR.
- Member States authorities would be required to finance the remaining activities from their national budgets and their own resources. Alternatively, they can access specific EU funds for which they should apply individually, among these:

- The EMFF operational programmes – funds designated to support the development of maritime surveillance, available in most of the MS until 2020;
- The Structural Reform Support Programme – funds supporting implementation of technical interoperability capabilities, available mostly for 2020 period.

5. Timeline

The transitional phase starts with the signature of the “Grant Agreement” (GA) between Commission (DGMARE) and EMSA. This signature is foreseen for early Q2-2019. The duration of the transitional phase is 2 years.