



ENHANCING PARTNERSHIPS



About Kenya Coast Guard Service

Kenya Coast Guard Services (KCGS) is established under Kenya Coast Guard Service Act No 11 of 2018 with a mandate to enforce laws and regulations applicable in Kenya's territorial waters and Inland water. The mandate revolves around maritime security, protection of maritime resources and sites, customs, pollution control, narcotic drugs, illegal firearms and ammunition.

Vision:

A premier service in maritime security & safety.

Mission:

To enforce maritime law on security, safety, and protection of maritime resources within Kenya's territorial waters.

Core Values

Integrity: We uphold fairness, honesty, professionalism and transparency in all our undertakings

Creativity: We provide solutions in innovative, imaginative and inspiring ways.

Team work: We embrace team spirit in all our endeavours and appreciate each other's talent.

Care: We care for our staff, the communities around us and are sensitive to the environment.

Civility: Serve our customers with humility

Participation: Cooperation with other stakeholders by upholding the rule of law to harness benefits of blue economy

Gender Sensitivity: We are committed to respect diversity.

Kenya Coast Guard Service



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From the BRIDGE DECK

Message from Cabinet Secretary



am delighted to address you through this edition of the KCGS Magazine, focusing on the theme of 'Enhancing Partnerships.' It gives me great pleasure to commend the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) on the successful launch of its Strategic Plan in April 2023, marking a significant milestone in the journey towards safeguarding our maritime domain. The KCGS Strategic Plan for the period 2023/24 - 2027/28 is a pivotal document that outlines the vision and mission of the Service, setting forth a roadmap to ensure maritime security and safety within our territorial waters. Aligned with the Constitution of Kenya, Vision 2030, and the Sustainable Development Goals and the BETA transformational agenda this plan

underscores the crucial role of maritime security in upholding our national integrity and fostering a sustainable Blue Economy sector. In light of the myriad maritime crimes and threats facing our waters, it is imperative that we adopt comprehensive and collaborative frameworks to address these challenges effectively. The KCGS, as the premier maritime law enforcement entity, is committed to proactively tackle these issues through intelligence-led operations, strategic partnerships, and capacity building initiatives.

I wish to emphasize the importance of collaboration among all stakeholders in supporting the KCGS in the implementation of its planned projects and programs. As the national focal point in maritime security matters, the KCGS plays a vital role in coordinating efforts both locally and regionally to ensure the safety and security of our maritime domain.

In conclusion, I urge all stakeholders to continue working closely with the KCGS to realize its vision of becoming a premier service in maritime security and safety. Together, we can build a safer and more prosperous future for our nation.

Hon. Kithure Kindiki
Cabinet Secretary
Ministry of Interior and National Administration

Principal Secretary's



am honored to address you through the inaugural edition of the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) Magazine. As we embark on this exciting journey of information sharing, it is my pleasure to highlight the remarkable progress and achievements of the KCGS in fulfilling its mandate to safeguard Kenya's territorial waters.

Since its establishment through Act No. 11 of 2018, the KCGS has demonstrated unwavering commitment to enforcing maritime security and safety in accordance with the laws and regulations governing our waters. The Service's mission to provide security and safety in Kenva's territorial waters for socio-economic development underscores its vital role in promoting national prosperity.

I am pleased to acknowledge the significant milestones that the KCGS has achieved, propelling it to prominence not only within the country but also regionally. From

Search and Rescue (SAR) operations to humanitarian disaster response interventions, such as the laudable 'OPERATION DHIBI-TI MAFURIKO,' where hundreds of marooned villages were evacuated during the Tana River County focus on serving and protecting floods in late 2023, the KCGS has consistently demonstrated its capacity to respond to crises with efficiency and professionalism. Furthermore, the holistic steps taken to enhance the KCGS's autonomy and operational readiness are commendable. As we face mounting challenges in the Western Indian Ocean, including piracy, Maritime Terrorism and illegal fishing, the transformation of the KCGS into a fully-fledged and autonomous service will undoubtedly bolster its ability to safeguard our maritime interests effectively. I would like to express my gratitude to the editorial board for spearheading the development of the KCGS Newsletter and for their

commitment to fostering transparency and public engagement. It is our government's priority to keep the local populace informed and to ensure that our operations remain people-centric, with a the interests of all Kenyans. In conclusion, I encourage all stakeholders to support the KCGS in its noble mission and to actively engage with the Service as we work together to secure our maritime domain and promote national prosperity.

Linda Tufaulu

Dr. Raymond Omollo, PhD, CBS **Principal Secretary** State Department for Internal Security and National Administration

Director General's Prelude



B.I.SHIOSO EBS, OGW

Director General, KCGS

Navigating Success In 2023

s we cast our eyes back on the pages of 2023, it fills me with immense pride and a profound sense of accomplishment to witness the remarkable journey that the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) has embarked upon. When I assumed the mantle of leadership for this esteemed service, I was cognizant of the colossal responsibility bestowed upon me. It was not merely about steering a newly conceived service but about propelling it to unprecedented heights, forging a legacy that resonates far beyond the present moment.

Our journey, guided by a clear destination, echoes a commitment to excellence, innovation, and resilience. We are not merely taking steps for today; we are crafting a future where KCGS stands as a formidable force, locally and regionally. The year 2023 has been a chapter in our collective story, marked by challenges, triumphs, and the unwavering spirit of our dedicated workforce.

As stewards of maritime security and safety, we have weathered challenges with fortitude, ensuring that our operational readiness remains unshaken. Developing long-term planning capabilities has been pivotal, aligning our actions with a strategic vision that encompasses the essence of our mission. Our roadmap for the future is not just a navigational guide but a blueprint for the realization of our organizational goals.

In 2023, we projected our capabilities onto the maritime canvas, making our presence not only visible but impactful. The contributions of KCGS reverberated, thanks to the commitment and dedication of our colleagues and partners who share our vision. Our development partners have walked alongside us, with a shared goal of transforming KCGS into a premier service in maritime security and safety.

Structures laid in 2023 form the bedrock of our journey towards the aspirations outlined in our Grand Strategic Plan. Strategic engagements and

leadership initiatives have fortified our standing in an ever-evolving maritime environment. The past year has been a canvas where achievements were painted, lags were identified, and lessons were learned on how we could further enhance our capabilities.

Amidst reflection, it becomes evident that a whole-of-government approach is crucial. We must invigorate and cascade this approach to the grassroots level within our Maritime Law Enforcement Operations. As the guardians of Kenya's maritime interests, it is imperative that our collaborative efforts extend beyond borders and barriers.

As we set sail into the future, let us carry the lessons of 2023 with us. Our commitment to excellence, innovation, and resilience will continue to be the wind in our sails, propelling us forward into a future where the Kenya Coast Guard Service stands as an exemplar of maritime security and safety.

Director General Kenya Coast Guard Service

"The past year has been a canvas where achievements were painted, lags were identified, and lessons were learned on how we could further enhance our capabilities."





Sound Leadership A Catalyst For KCGS Transformative Growth

By Mr Richard Ngeno - Chief Of Staff



enya Coast Guard Service came into effect in 2018 through an Act of parliament with a mandate of enforcing maritime law, security and safety and protection of maritime resources within Kenya's territorial waters. From its inception to the presence it has experienced a tremendous growth in leaps and bounds to becoming a premier Service in the maritime security and safety in the country and the region thus helping in the growth of Blue Economy in Kenya. The incredible growth of KCGS is not by default but a carefully crafted, choreographed and orchestrated strategy to ensure it achieves a revered decree in the maritime domain. Conceptualization of KCGS which came as an idea began with an end in mind driven to become a premier maritime security Service in Kenya with its mantra "Linda Tufaulu". The rapid growth of the Service is mirrored in five key aspects of understanding the vision and strategy of the Service, impact and feasibility, values and principles, communication and monitoring.

Understanding the Vision and Strategy

Prior to the establishment of KCGS, Kenya's maritime domain was riddled with several agencies with diverse overlapping mandates which more often than not caused frictions among the various stakeholders. It then came the idea to synergize the diverse mandates, powers and capabilities of the agencies to drive one agenda towards a specified vision of growing our Blue Economy by creating a unifying

Service with huge and deliberate task. It is worth noting at this point that the establishment of KCGS brought about change to the existing nomenclature in the maritime domain thus causing mixed reactions among the players in the sector. On the onset it was met with some indifference and ecstasy in equal measure. For some it was the right decision at the spur of the moment while to others it was challenging, disruptive and risky undertaking as a result of uncertainty caused. Nevertheless, astute leadership and judicious decision making of the Service navigated the perceptions to steer the ship through the murky waters to her intended course of sail.

Impact and Feasibility of Decisions and justification of our decision to stakeholders especially those who

The growth in KCGS is characterised by sound decision-making process right from the Council, which the apex decision is making organ, through to the Technical Committee, Director General to individual personnel in the Service. This is informed by the fact that every decision made by the executive or individuals in the Service has consequences and implications. In our case therefore the decision made by the executive have had positive ripple effect in the Service making it stand out as a premier Service among peers. The leadership of the Service employs various tools, methods and strategies such as SWOT analysis, cost benefit analysis, risk assessment and scenario planning to help weigh in on opportunities, threats and mitigating strategies of decisions. Equally crucial is the aspect of valued feedback from stakeholders ensuring that decisions are informed, balanced and take into account diverse perspectives. The open-minded and accommodative style of leadership has seen KCGS grow with pride attracting attention from all and sundry in the maritime domain.

Values and Principles

Decision-making process in KCGS reflect the values and principles of the Service. These are the core beliefs and norms that have steered the behaviour

and actions of the Service. Our values and principles embody integrity, creativity, teamwork, care, civility, participation and gender sensitivity enabling the Service to be transparent, collaborative, innovative and accountable in all its endeavours. The values are a representation rooted in the idea that diversity is an asset. These values and principles have made KCGS develop its culture that has seen it grow with recognition in the region and beyond.

Communication

Communication is a very important aspect of executive decision making. Our success is premised on clear communication, branding stakeholders especially those who are affected by our decisions and the resultant actions. We have made it a norm especially to our fisher folks and the entire Blue Economy industry players understand the rationale, objectives, benefits, and risks of our decisions as well as the expected outcomes and actions. On the other hand, we have valued their concerns, questions, feedback of the stakeholders and appropriately addressed the issues and challenges associated. Communication itself is a process which we have made it continuous and interactive in order to build trust, engagement and commitment to the stakeholders.

Monitoring and review

Follow up of every decision and action ensures that it is understood and implemented correctly. Tracking and measuring our progress has been a great tool in ensuring performance and results are aligned to the vision and strategy of the Service as well as the core values and principles. To achieve this KCGS always analyse feedback, reports and observations in order to evaluate the effectiveness and impact of its decisions. Reviewing has kept us flexible to adapt and adjust our strategies where necessary to allow for creativity, innovation and ability to seize opportunities as they arise.

Directorate of Maritime Operations

by the Director Maritime Operations Capt (CG) B D Khula, MBS, ndc, 'psc' (K), 'psc' (Bdi)



Director's Take: Navigating The Waves Of Maritime Law Enforcement In 2023

As the Director of Maritime Operations (DMO), reflecting on the intricate tapestry of 2023 is akin to navigating the vast seas of a dynamic and challenging maritime environment. This year has been a journey of strategic depth, where the Directorate of Maritime Operations stood as the formidable tooth arm of the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS), playing a pivotal role in upholding maritime law enforcement and ensuring the safety and security of our waters.

Strategic Alignment for Success

In the fast-paced realm of maritime law enforcement, success doesn't happen by chance. It is the outcome of meticulous planning and strategic alignment. The success of 2023 was underpinned by a comprehensive work plan, serving as a guiding framework to realign priorities and channel different lines of effort towards the implementation of the

KCGS Strategic Plan. This ensured a clear dash-board, allowing us to gauge whether our vessels were adrift, on track, or right on schedule.

Our core strategic objective of a Safe & Secure Area of Responsibility (AOR) materialized through robust Maritime Domain Buildup, enhancing visibility in our territorial waters. The commitment to developing our workforce through strategic training partnerships aimed at maintaining operational readiness has been a cornerstone. Looking ahead, our focus will intensify on advanced Maritime Law Enforcement Trainings, addressing transnational threats and emerging regional challenges.

Attaining Full Operating Capability

A key takeaway from the year was the relentlesspursuit of attaining Full Operating Capability. Asset maintenance and targeted training programs not only bolstered our overall posture but showcased our readiness. The spotlight shone brightly during Search and Rescue (SAR) & Recovery interventions in Tana River, demonstrating our commitment to serving communities in times of crisis in Operation Dhibiti Mafuriko.

Whole of Government Approach: A Force Multiplier

Stakeholder liaison through the Whole of Government Approach has been instrumental. Collaboration with other Ministries, Departments & Agencies (MDA's) and Development partners has proven to be a force multiplier in enhancing maritime security. Strengthened partnerships remain pivotal as we continue to navigate shared challenges and work towards collective success.

Embracing Technological Advancements: KCGS Operation Centre (XOC)

The establishment of the KCGS OperationCentre (XOC) marks a significant stride towards heightened situational awareness. As we move forward, the XOC will play a pivotal role in executing KCGS-led missions efficiently. Steps have been initiated, aligning with our vision for an advanced and integrated operational center.

A Human-Centric Approach

As we embark on another year, a human-cetric

approach to Maritime Law Enforcement operations becomes paramount. Robust interactions with the communities we serve will be vital. Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) remains our main tool, empowering our Law Enforcement personnel to assess threats comprehensively.

Navigating Challenges: Maximizing Readiness

In acknowledging challenges, we recognize that no smooth sea ever made a skilled sailor. Necessary steps have been taken to maximize readiness, delivering mission readiness aimed at addressing these challenges. The mantra "To whom much is given, much is expected" resonates as we find ourselves in this pivotal position.

In closing, my vision is to bolster our presence within our domains, employing robust patrols and increasing deterrence in our AOR. As we set sail into another year, the Directorate of Maritime Operations remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguarding our maritime interests and upholding the principles of maritime law enforcement. Fair winds and following seas as we navigate the maritime landscape together.



Enforcement & Emergency Response Outlook

By Director Enforcement and Emergency Response Mr John Wanyoike



MR John Wanyoike
Director Enforcement and Emergency Response

he Kenya Coast Guard Service is a key enabler to sustainable Blue Economy through its mandate of enforcement of maritime security, safety, and protection of fisheries and marine resources through its many functions in the maritime domain that include fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing, illegal trafficking and smuggling of drugs, goods, fire arms and human. Other functions include enforcement of port security, sanitation measures pollution control and Protection of maritime resources including fisheries, archaeological or historic sites.

The Directorate Enforcement and Emergency Response (DEER) is responsible for enforcement of all maritime laws and regulations relating to KCGS functions, responds to maritime emergencies, accidents, disaster, search and rescue and recovery of affected persons and exercises all powers relating to KCGS functions.

THE DIRECTORATE COMPRISES OF THE **FOLLOWING SECTIONS:-**

- Maritime Safety ,Pollution control and Sanitation measures enforcement.
- Fisheries Enforcement and Marine Resource Protection.
- Immigration and Customs Enforcement.
- Emergency Response and Search and Rescue
- Joint Operation Centre (JOC)
- Diving Unit

The Directorate is responsible to the Director General for the following functions:

- · Development and implementation of policies, guidelines and procedures relating to the Directorate;
- Enforcement of maritime safety;
- Enforcement of pollution control;
- Enforcement of prevention of trafficking of illegal goods;
- · Enforcement of and prevention of trafficking and smuggling of persons;
- · Enforcement of sanitation measures;
- · Enforcement of law on marine resources including fisheries;
- · Collaboration with other relevant maritime agen-

cies on enforcement of maritime laws;

- Response to emergencies in the maritime domain;
- Provide SAR capability

The Directorate objectives in line KCGS Strategic Plan included:

- To ensure Secure KCGS area of is responsibility against maritime threats by enforcing all maritime laws and regulations compliance related to KCGS
- To Ensure the safety fishers, shippers and other maritime domain users from maritime disaster and human era related accidents.
- To ensure sustainable utilization of fisheries and marine resources within Kenya territorial waters through a sustained fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing and illegal extraction of other marine resources, enhancement of marine environmental integrity, mitigation on climate change and build adaptation and resilience to communities living near the coast and inland lakes for a a Sustainable Social Economic Growth.

Achievements or accomplishments:

- · Safe and Secure Maritime Domain that has ensured that Kenya sea routes through the Western Indian Ocean region is no longer in the list of "High Risk Areas" of Indian Ocean.
- Clean beaches free from plastic pollution and other
- · Increased fisheries production and per capital income for communities living along the coastline and the inland lakes
- · Enhanced economy and incomes to the communities living along the KCGS (AOR) sea and inland lakes
- Enhance coastal security and increased tourism along the coast and major lakes in Kenya
- Enhanced marine environmental integrity and biodiversity through increased mangrove forest cover, seagrass beds and the reef areas.
- Reduced maritime deaths and accidents
- Enhance resilience and adaptation by communities living along the coast and inland water bodies from the negative impacts of climate change.

From The Directorate Of Support Services

By Cdr (Rtd) J K Koech 'ss' 'psc'(K)



Through the Director's Front placed on acquisition of land for Mirror: placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the placed on acquisition of land for the placed on acquisition

KCGS logistical requirement from the time of inception through to 2024.

CGS being the Blue Economy main enabler demands that it is well resourced in terms of equipment, infrastructure, clothing, fuel and foodstuffs. In order to handle these much need requirements, Directorate of Support Services is structured into four branches of Human Resource, Finance. Accounts and Procurement. These sub-branches are headed by a Head of Department (HOD) supervised by the Director of Support Services (DOSS) who is answerable to the Director General. In terms of equipment, DOSS branch has endeavored to ensure that equipment held are in proper operational state through prompt acquisition of not only spares required, but also ensuring more fit for service platforms are acquired to cover for the shortfalls. For infrastructure, more emphasis and effort has been

placed on acquisition of land for not only the stations but space for the Service Headquarters as well. The branch has further ensured that fuel for the motor vehicles as well as ships and boats is catered for in a timely manner. Turn out for the uniformed personnel has been addressed through acquisition of proper uniform in good time to ensure replacement for the worn out gears and kitting of new members.

Contribution towards attainment of the Service Strategic intent. In aligning with the Service Strategic intent as covered in the launched Strategic Plan, DOSS has put in measures of ensuring equipping of the Service, Infrastructure development and Human Resource structures development. All these are in line/support of the KCGS launched Strategic Plan. To this end, some achievements have been realized and efforts are in place for more in order to make KCGS not only mission capable but also a force to reckon within the region. Notable achievements in infrastructure de-

velopment, equipping KCGS and HR instruments are as follows:

Infrastructure

- DOSS branch has ensured that all pending processes to facilitate reverting of former Outrigger Hotel to KCGS and to serve as a future Headquarters were completed. It now awaits clearance of the outstanding payments to the original owners in FY 2024-2025 to allow for transfer to KCGS.
- So far DOSS has facilitated acquisition of land for construction of KCGS stations in Busia County, Homabay County and Baringo County. The necessary construction contracts were signed and currently construction works are in various stages of completion. On completion, ideal KCGS station will look as below:

Ideal KCGS Containerized Station

(1). Baringo KCGS Station: Phase I of constructing accommodation, dining, stores, Offices and

ablution blocks is now complete. Phase II of the project currently awaiting MINA approval will involve installation of sewer system, fresh water system, holding cell, armory and a perimeter wall

(2). Port Victoria KCGS Station (Busia). The construction is ongoing and at 50% stage of completion. On finalizing the works, the station will have accommodation spaces, offices, holding cell, armory, boats Launching area, sewer system, fresh water system and a perimeter fence. The major ongoing works are piling of the containers and cutting provisions for windows and doors. Preparation for the stairways will follow including upper walkways. On completion of roofing, paint works will commence. The sewer system has been completed and the boats launch area (ramp) is due for completion.

(3). Mbita KCGS Station. It is now at approximately 72% stage of completion and equally will have the same facilities as the other two stations.

Equipping KCGS

Equipping KCGS involves mainly acquisition of mission capable seagoing platforms in form of ships and boats. To this end more emphasis is to establish shipyards capable of meeting KCGS requirements in accordance with the developed User Service Specifications Requirements (USSRs). To this end DOSS has arranged and made it possible for the visit of two shipbuilding yards as follows:

a. Kership Shipyard of France.
 b. Damen Shipyard of Netherlands.
 Arrangements are in place and being pursued to facilitate visits to more shipyards in order to establish and recommend the most suitable that meets KCGS USSR requirements.

Ongoing Maintenance

KCGS ensures that the equipment currently in the inventory operate optimally through timely acquisition of the required spares and strictly adhering to refit circles. Currently DOSS branch through Kenya Shipyard Limited is undertaking maintenance of nine boats and one ship. Two boats in Kisumu, namely MV

HERON and MB TEWA have been completed, sea trials undertaken and handed over for operation. The remaining seven boats and a ship will be completed before closure of FY 2023-24

Human Resource Instruments Development

DOSS facilitated the completion of Job Descriptions, Career Progression and harmonization of the proposed salary scales within security agencies which had been pending for a while. The rest of the documents had earlier received KCGS Council approval. Currently, all the necessary signatories have appended their signatures and awaiting PSC input before forwarding for SRC salary evaluation. KCGS thereafter will be eligible to hire the much needed Human Resource for proper manning levels.











Setting Sail for Success: The Project Management Office (PMO): Kenya Coastguard Service

By the Project Management Specialist (INL) - Ms Mahlet Israel

Introduction

afety, security, and environmental steward-ship converge at the Kenyan Coast Guard a new agency that now stands as a beacon of protection. As the Coastguard navigates the tides of progress, it is becoming increasingly crucial to establish a robust Project Management Office (PMO). This PMO will serve as the compass, guiding KCGS toward efficient operations, strategic growth, and impactful outcomes. To get the establishment of the office off the ground, KCGS has partnered with stakeholders to onboard a Project Management Consultant, who will work with the Coastguard team for six months, capacitating them to take on the new office.

The PMO will undertake the following tasks to accelerate the growth in the

Centralizing Projects for Smooth Sailing

Centralization of projects under the Project Management Office (PMO) umbrella will be a game changer. This approach will bring several advantages that enhance efficiency, collaboration, and risk management.

One of the key benefits of centralization is the adoption of uniform processes. This ensures that every project adheres to best practices, enhancing the quality of outcomes. Consistent project management practices not only enhance collaboration but also streamline decision-making, making it eas-

ier for teams to work together and make informed decisions.

The PMO will play a crucial role in resource utilisation, ensuring resources are used efficiently across projects. This approach will help avoid resource duplication and optimizes the usage of personnel, budget, and equipment. By doing so, KCGS can ensure that every project has the resources it needs avoiding duplication of effort.

Centralization of risk management is another significant advantage to this approach. It allows KCGS to identify and address potential challenges proactively, rather than reactively. This means the service can navigate stormy waters with agility, minimizing disruptions and ensuring projects stay on track.

The Power of Processes

The PMO will be structured under two strategic deliverables: instilling structured workflows and building capacity of its team members for improved delivery and execution.

Structured processes are crucial in reducing chaos and enhancing productivity. These workflows will provide a roadmap for teams to follow, ensuring that every step taken is purposeful and leads towards a project's objectives. The approach is anchored in the belief that teams thrive in an environment where processes guide their actions, as it provides clarity and direction. This eliminates ambiguity, reduces the risk of errors, and ensures that all team members are on the same page, working

towards a common goal.

Additionally, the PMO will focus on capacity building. Through various skill development initiatives, the Project Management Consultant will empower teams, equipping them with the necessary skills and knowledge to execute projects effectively. A skilled workforce is not just an asset; it's a necessity for effective project execution.

Course Correction and Informed Decision-Making

Playing a crucial role in fostering a culture of continuous learning and making data-driven decisions, the PMO will focus on learning, adapting, and improving delivery outcomes.

The aim is to use project data and lessons learned not just for post-project analysis, but for immediate course correction. This approach allows KCGS to adapt and improve in real-time, ensuring that projects are always on the path to success. It's not just about learning from mistakes, but also about adapting strategies based on what works best.

The PMO will help KCGS understand that informed decisions rely on accurate data. In time, the PMO will use real-time insights for leadership, ensuring that every decision is backed by solid data. This approach eliminates guesswork and intuition-based decisions, replacing them with decisions that are grounded. By leveraging data, KCGS can make decisions that are not just informed, but also effective and efficient.

Cultivating Partnerships and Charting New Horizons

The final tasking of the new PMO is effective establishment and management of new and existing partnerships.

KCGS's longstanding partnerships with multiple stakeholders has been instrumental in its success. These relationships, built on mutual trust and shared goals, have enabled the Coastguard to deliver on its mandate. As the Coastguard positions itself for growth, it is imperative that it continues to nurture and expand these relationships. The PMO will play a key role in this, ensuring that stakeholders are engaged, and their voices are heard.

Finally, the KCGS plays a pivotal role in Kenya's blue economy, a sector that holds immense potential for economic growth and sustainable development. The PMO will be responsible for ensuring that projects align with strategic pillars, creating tangible impact for the Kenyan people.

Conclusion

As we set sail toward a brighter future, the establishment of the PMO is our compass. It will guide us, empower our teams, and steer us toward success. Together, we'll chart new courses, leveraging data, partnerships, and unwavering commitment. Anchored in excellence, the Kenyan Coast Guard will continue to safeguard our waters, our people, and our nation. #LindaTufaulu

'Structured processes are crucial in reducing chaos and enhancing productivity.'

Activities And Events By The Legal Unit

Official Launch Of KCGS Strategic Plan

- MoU concluded between KCGS and Expertise France on Community Watch Program (CWP).
- Partnership for coastal smart phone app. called Usalama Baharini App. for fishers to report safety & security related activities while at sea.

Egypt Ministry Of Water

- IORIS Summit in Nairobi, 16 to 18 October 2023.
- On enhancing maritime security and safety in the Indo-Pacific.
- Cross-regional cooperation against transnational maritime threats.

Global CGGS (Japan)

- Launch of 1st KCGS Strategic Plan 2023/24 -2027/28
- Inaugural plan since establishment of the in Service 2018
- Sets out the roadmap for maritime security and safety

KCGS & Expertise France



- Training on Conflict over shared water (Cairo) Egypt 24th September to 12th October, 2023.
- Regional co-operation framework in the Nile Basin.
- Benefitting 11 Nile Riparian States including Kenya.

IORIS Summit (Nairobi)



- 3rd Coast Guard Global Summit, Tokyo Japan Oct. 30th to Nov.2nd 2023.
- Global platform for dialogue and cooperation for Coast Guards.
- Multilateral cooperation on a global scale to deal with current global changes and related challenges.

Understanding The Legal, Policy And Operational Environment Of KCGS

By K O. Odhiambo [LL.M] Head of Legal Services

The legal instrument:

enya's boundary is divided into terrestrial and mari-⊾time boundary.The Kenya Coast Guard Service (The Service) was established by an Act of parliament No.11 of 2018 and is mandated to perform coast guard functions on Kenya's territorial waters (waters within our maritime boundary). The geographic scope of our maritime boundary was defined with the enactment of the Maritime Zones Act Cap.371 and in accordance with the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), Kenya proclaimed her EEZ through a presidential proclamation of June 9, 2005. The charts and coordinates of the proclamation were deposited with the secretary-general of the United Nations, pursuant to article 16, para 2, and article 75, para 2 of UNCLOS, and were subsequently published under law of the sea bulletin no. 16 of 2006

The Mandate:

As mandated in the Act No.11 OF 2018 the Service is tasked with the responsibility to enforce maritime security and safety in line with domestic and international laws and regulations applicable in Kenya's territorial waters. Domestic laws applicable include the Merchant Shipping Act Cap.389; KMA Act Cap.370 and the Maritime Zones Act Cap.371 ,Fisheries Management & Development Act no. 25 of 2016, the Penal Code Cap. 63,

Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substance(Control) Act no.4 of 1994 to mention a few. For an example of international law, the 1982 united Nations Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS) and the international convention for safety of life at sea (SOLAS) are key instrument of international law obligation that Kenya has ratified and the KCGS is able to fulfil as a matter of customary international law and through its legislated mission of Search and Rescue (SAR).

The Governance structure:

The KCGS Act No.11 of 2018 is the Act of parliament that establishes the Service, its structure its functions and the powers it needs to function properly. The approach adopted by the Act is that the Service will be composed of disciplined and uniformed component; and the civilian component. KCGS reports to the Ministry of Interior and has the primary responsibility for the majority of its legislated missions. The Service is trained and provided with necessary weapons for maritime law enforcement, is permitted to assist and receive assistance in its law enforcement mission from other public authorities and may be deployed for combat mission alongside Kenya Defence Forces (KDF) for national defence.

The Council is the apex body of KCGS responsible for overall policy, conrol and supervision of the Service. The Technical Committee advises the Council on policy and

financial matter and the Director General responsible for the day to day administration, control and management of the Service. In addition, the Director General serves as the Secretary to both Council and Technical Committee.

The multi-agency framework:

The rational for the establishment of KCGS as a maritime security service was to create a more efficient organization able to carry out coast guard functions, to deal with emerging maritime threats on Kenya's territorial waters. The approach adopted was the creation of an integrated service (with KCGS as lead agency in many instances) that meets the whole of government approach (one government approach if you like), to implement domestic policies and international duties with regard to maritime security and safety. The mechanism of achieving this multi-agency approach is in-built in the Act S.8(2) and specifically through negotiated Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) between two or more governmental agencies and carefully crafted standard operating procedures (SOPs) that will enable the agencies leverage on special skills and capabilities for operational/tactical synergies.



Domestic law enforcement responsibilities:

Section 8(1)(2) and (3) of KCGS Act no.11 of 2018, provides that the Service shall be deployed in the territorial waters. The thirteen (13) legislated missions are contained in S.8(1) (a-i) to enforce maritime security and safety; Search and Rescue; pollution control; prevent trafficking in drugs and psychotropic substances; trafficking in illegal goods; prosecute maritime offenders; port and coastal security; protection of maritime resources including fisheries; protection of archaeological objects or sites and any other function conferred by any other written law. It is notewothy that these are governmental powers that can only be delegated to a state/government agency to enforce as opposed to a private enterprise.

Under S.8(2) the Service shall co-operate with and assist other public authorities during emergencies or in the execution of their mandates in the territorial waters. This gives you a sense of the inherent power and jurisdiction of the Service to carry out a law enforcement function at any location where such public authority's mandate extends. For example, where there is intel that Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing (a resource crime) is taking place in Kenya's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), KCGS is obligated to assist the Fisheries Service carry out its manadate in that location for purposes of law enforcement. Similarly, KCGS in exercising its law enforcement mandate enjoys the power to exercise the right of visit for purposes of boarding a suspicious vessel; for purposes of apprehending and detaining a stateless vessel in the high seas and in worst case scenario, denial of port services to a suspicious vessel if intel suggest as much.

International law responsibilities:

Law enforcement in the international arena of oceans is complex.

The main law is the 1982 united Nations Law of the Sea Convention (UNCLOS) which Kenya has ratified. In addition to UNCLOS, there are several other conventions of general applicability to international maritime law whose provisions are binding on a state, as a matter of customary international law. The other relevant instrument to mention here is on Port State Measures (PSMs) to combat IUU fishing. The general principle at international law is that all nations have equal rights to navigation and over-flight in and over international waters (a.k.a Freedom of the high seas). The high seas are waters beyond the territorial sea of a country. A ship/vessel flying a particular flag over the high seas, is representative of the territory of the flag that it

The exception to this freedom of the high seas concept strictly speaking, can and may only be invoked in circumstances only where a ship/vessel is suspected of either committing a serious crime or is in breach of international law etc in the high seas and in territory adjacent to a coastal state. Where that is the case, a State can assert over a vessel in the high seas either: (a) flag state jurisdiction (b) port state jurisdiction, if the vessel is coming into port (c) coastal state jurisdiction, depending on location, the nature and enormity of the crime and/or (d) universal jurisdiction (in piracy cases). The default has always been that the flag state has jurisdiction over its vessel and its crew. This a sovereignity issue, however the flag state may waive sovereignity depending on the variables at play and may yet require the assistance of the coastal state or other state to help in collecting and preserving evidence of a crime for its use or even permit prosecution of a crime on its behalf. In the example given above projecting the legal finish is a front-end issue as well as a back-end issue and will obviously involve examining whether certain mutual legal assistance protocols are in place between two

States.

NB:This piece is not intended to take a deep dive into the complexities of international law as it applies in the maritime domain. That will be the subject of a future article.

Suffice it to mention here that the way the Service inter-face with international law obligations vis-à-vis other Countries/States and/or Organizations is through multi-lateral, international/regional bilateral agreements, treaties and conventions and other agreements signed at government-to-government level. These agreements establish a point of contact for the coordination of activities enshrined in the instruments and exchange of information.

The Service currently engages with many international assistance partners supporting many of its core interventions. For an example of such partnerships

- (a) USA/INL for meaningful partnership in enhancing maritime security, protecting coastlines and promoting sustainable development.
- (b) EU/Go-Blue/Expertise
 France for international technical
 cooperation in projects aimed at
 strengthening maritime safety.
- (c) **UNODC** for assistance in the fight against illicit drugs and international crime.
- (d) Danish Police Force, for capacity building and training in project development and implementation.
- (e) Djibouti Code of Conduct (Jeddha Amendment) for the suppression of piracy and armed robbery against ships in the Western Indian Ocean and under Jeddah amendment, capacity building coordination and resources allocation to avert future maritime security threats.
- (f) Canadian Coast Guard for capacity building and training(Canada Coast Guard project aimed at strengthening capabilities and partnerships through KEMFSED boosting the Blue Economy).

Cyber Space – A New Operational Domain For Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS)

By K O Odhiambo Head Of Legal (HOL)

"Cyberspace is a Contested Domain" - Admiral Karl L. Shultz

Keywords and dictionary definitions to help explain what this topic is –

- Cyber space is the national environment in which communication over computer networks occur.
- Cyber safety refers to measures promoting safe usage of the internet, especially in order to protect against viruses, fraud or other forms of attack.
- Cyber-attack is an attempt by hackers to damage or destroy a computer network or system.
- Cyber security is the state of being protected against the criminal or unauthorized use of electronic data, or measures taken to achieve this.
- Maritime domain is all areas and things of, on, under, relating to adjacent to, or bordering on a sea, ocean, or other navigable waterway, including all maritime related activities, infrastructure, people, cargo and vessels and other conveyances.

The KCGS is a maritime security service charged with enforcement of security and safety on Kenya's territorial waters (coastal and inland). Safety of its systems, physical assets and installations from cyber-attacks is a key concern. KCGS operations are essential security operations using a multi-agency approach and assisting other public authorities in the execution of their mandates in the territorial waters. Any disruption by way of cyber-attacks to its operations therefore presents a serious threat to this one government approach which is key to its operations.

What are the presenting risks and what needs to happen? And what best practices can we pick from our partners to avert future threats in the maritime domain?

Risks include-

- Unauthorized access to computer data
- Password hacking
- Access with intent to commit an offence
- Jamming radio communications

Managing risks will include-

- Information sharing to shine the light on potential enemies/hackers in the maritime domain
- Developing a strategy for maritime cyber space
- Investing in technology capability that detect and monitor an enemy that seeks to create disruption in the maritime domain
- Whole of government approach to secure information supply chains
- Collaboration and partnerships to maximize interoperability

Best practice

- Aligning with Kenya Navy standards
- Equip field commanders with cyber security skills
- Technology upgrade
- Benchmarking with other coast guards

Regulatory Framework

The framework that regulates ac-

cess to e-government services is the Kenya Information and Communications Act Cap 411A – "An Act of Parliament ... to facilitate the development of information and communication sector and electronic commerce..." This legislation contains stringent anti hacking provisions under sections 83(q) through 83(z) and 84(a) through 84(c). Additionally, the Kenya Coast Guard Act also provides guidance under its enforcement powers in section 8(1)(a) read with section 9(d).

Conclusion

KCGS needs to strengthen its cyber space presence and resilience by a robust maritime domain awareness, an elaborate risk management plan, while leveraging the collaboration and partnership with other players in the maritime environment to safeguard its operations against cyber-attacks. KCGS is alive to the fact that any enterprise can be the target of a cyber-attack, this can happen on land, e.g., against banks, telecoms and port installations as well as on sea e.g., against ships during transit. When it does happen, it possesses a danger to port security and critical infrastructure installation both on the sea and land. Cyber-attack on the waters is a serious threat because of the potential not only to disrupt KCGS operations but maritime transport services as well, analogous to the disruptions to commercial shipping and supply chains caused by piracy attacks in the Gulf of Aden.

SQUADRON COMMANDERS Eage



Ahoy, Shipmates!

By Cdr Simon Simotwo Coastal Squadron Commander Kenya Coast Guard Service



Cdr Simon Simotwo Coastal Squadron Commander Kenya Coast Guard Service

s the Coastal Squadron Commander of the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS), it is with great pride and excitement that I share with you the remarkable achievements and challenges faced by our esteemed squadron. The Coastal Squadron serves as the backbone of the KCGS, entrusted with the vital task of ensuring maritime security and safety along our vast coastline.

In the ever-evolving maritime environment, our squadron confronts a myriad of challenges, from narco-trafficking and irregular migration to illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing and the proliferation of adulterated alcohol. Despite these challenges, the Coastal Squadron remains steadfast in its commitment to protecting our territorial waters and coastal communities.

Throughout the year 2023, the Coastal Squadron maintained a strong presence within our area of responsibility (AOR), closely engaging with local communities and stakeholders. This proactive approach has been instrumental in our success in addressing various maritime law enforcement tasks, including compliance inspections, emergency responses, marine casualties, and search-and-rescue (SAR) operations.

To ensure our squadron remains mission-ready, we have invested heavily in training and capacity-building initiatives, generously funded by partners such as the International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG)/Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), and the European Union (EU) through the GoBlue project. These training programs have equipped our personnel with the necessary skills and expertise to tackle emerging threats effectively.

One area of particular focus has been our SAR capabilities, with the Coastal Squadron responding to over 300 cases annually within our jurisdiction. Through strategic leadership and collaboration with KCGS leadership, we have strengthened our multilateral partnerships and integrated seamlessly with other agencies to address cross-cutting maritime issues.

Looking ahead, it is imperative that the Coastal

Squadron adopts a multifaceted approach to maritime security, recognizing the importance of engaging coastal communities, the shipping industry, NGOs, and local government units. By harnessing the intimate knowledge and expertise of these stakeholders, we can enhance maritime domain awareness and ensure the safety and security of our waters.

One such initiative is the Safety Training of Fisher (STF) program, developed in collaboration with our partners in the EU-funded GoBlue project. This program aims to empower coastal communities involved in the Blue Economy by building resilience and fostering trust, ultimately contributing to improved maritime security.

Additionally, the Usalama Baharini App exemplifies our commitment to community empowerment, providing a direct chain of information that enhances our ability to monitor and respond to maritime threats effectively.

In conclusion, the Coastal Squadron remains dedicated to its mission of safeguarding Kenya's territorial waters. With unwavering determination and strategic partnerships, we will continue to navigate the challenges ahead, ensuring a safer and more secure maritime environment for all.

"Integrating multilateral partnerships as enshrined in the whole of government approach with a whole of society approach will be the crucial link towards safer & secure maritime spaces."

ALL ROPES ONBOARD, CAST OFF

KCGS Inland Squadron: Overcoming Challenges, Achieving Success

By Lt Cdr (Rtd) Bernard Kimaiyo Mibei

he Kenya Coast Guard Service's Inland Squadron plays a vital role in safeguarding the navigable lakes within the hinterland of Kenya, including Lake Turkana, Lake Victoria, Lake Naivasha, and Lake Baringo. With six operational stations strategically situated across these lakes, the squadron faces a unique set of challenges and achievements in fulfilling its mandate.

Challenges and Achievements

Lake Victoria

The stations in Kisumu, Mbita, and Port Victoria operate in a dynamic environment characterized by fishing, water transport, and tourism activities. Bordering Uganda and Tanzania, the lake presents cross-border challenges such as illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, communication gaps with neighboring The KCGS Inland Squadron, represented by the law enforcement agencies, and safety concerns. Despite these challenges, the Inland Squadron has made significant strides in enhancing safety and security on Lake Victoria through robust enforcement efforts and multi-agency collaborations.

Lake Baringo

Baringo Station focuses on enforcing safety and security measures in an area known for its unique blend of communities and tourism attractions. Addressing issues like small-scale human-animal conflicts and pollution, the station has played a pivotal role in maintaining peace and tranquility in the region while promoting sustainable tourism practices.

Lake Turkana

Situated along the western shores of Lake Turkana, the station at Lowarengak faces challenges related to cross-border conflicts between the Turkana of Kenya and the Dasanach of Ethiopia within the OMO Delta Area. Despite lower volumes of human activities compared to Lake Victoria, the Inland Squadron actively engages in cross-border peace initiatives, acting as a mediator and enforcer of peace to foster economic growth and stability in the region.

Lake Naivasha

The Naivasha Station has made significant strides in restoring the ecosystem of Lake Naivasha, combating threats such as overfishing, improper fishing methods, and pollution. Through diligent efforts, the squadron has contributed to the gradual restoration of the lake's ecological balance, although the journey towards complete normalcy remains an ongoing challenge.

Gun-Boat Diplomacy

Kenya Coast Guard Service, and the Uganda People's Defence Force (FPU), recently convened at the border point in Busia County waters for an information-sharing meeting. This collaborative effort underscores the importance of cross-border partnerships and highlights the commitment of both agencies to promoting maritime security and cooperation in the region.

In conclusion, despite the diverse challenges faced by the Inland Squadron, the Kenya Coast Guard Service remains steadfast in its commitment to safeguarding Kenya's inland waterways, promoting peace and stability, and fostering sustainable development in the hinterland lakes region. Through strategic initiatives and collaborative partnerships, the squadron continues to make significant contributions to the safety, security, and prosperity of our nation.





Handover of Stolen items to KCGS at Sigulu, Uganda



Lt Cdr (Rtd) Bernard Kimaiyo Mibei -Welcoming Deputy Governor Kisumu County during Tree planting exercise at Baga Beach.



DISCIPLINE Quaterdeck



Reflections From The KCGS Master Nurturing Excellence, Guiding Futures

By KCGS Master - WO1 Timothy Barmase



n the vast seas where the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) sails, there exists a silent force, the custodian of discipline, the advisor on personnel matters, the beacon of wisdom—The KCGS Master. Steeped in tradition, responsibility, and a commitment to the well-being of enlisted personnel, the KCGS Master shares reflections on a role that transcends ranks and resonates with impact.

Guardianship of Discipline and Integrity:

At the helm of personnel matters, the KCGS Master stands as the principal advisor to the Director General. Upholding service discipline, integrity, honor, respect, and devotion to duty, the Master orchestrates a symphony of professionalism. A firm believer in the mantra, "A GOOD SHIP IS KNOWN BY ITS BOATS," the Master recognizes the pivotal role of enlisted personnel in shaping the unit's morale, performance, and professionalism.

Nurturing a Young, Credible Service:

The KCGS Master's vision extends beyond the present, aiming to carve a niche for KCGS as a young, credible service. Engaged in constant barazas, unit visits, and meaningful interactions with juniors, the Master understands the importance of knowing the sailors both formally and informally. With a prized possession - a notebook filled with details, even sketches, of enlisted personnel - the Master fosters a culture of connection, making it easier to identify signs of significant changes in their lives.

Mentorship: Crafting Futures and Building Core Strength:

The Master emphasizes the mentorship role as providing insight and planning on issues that impact overall performance. Recognizing the extraordinary responsibilities vested in this position, the Master works tirelessly to create a foundation from which officers can gain support. The strength of this core remains largely unseen but profoundly felt, much like a well-tuned parade or an elegant stage performance.

Legacy Beyond the Limelight:

Acknowledging that the Master's role is often behind the scenes, akin to the unsung directors in the film industry, the greatest pride lies in witnessing young enlists projecting themselves for future roles. The joy of knowing that mentorship, preparation, and grooming have empowered them to take

the stage is unparalleled. As the Master exits the stage, the legacy continues through those who have been mentored.

The Importance of Planning for Exit:

In a heartfelt reminder to colleagues, the KCGS Master underscores the significance of planning for the moment when one hangs their boots. The two most critical moments in a Maritime Law Enforcement Personnel's life are when they enlist and when they retire. The latter, the moment of hanging boots, carries immense weight, determining the trajectory of life beyond service. The Master urges all to prepare for this moment from the first day of donning those boots.

Family as Bedrock:

In the unpredictable seas of life, the Master imparts a timeless truth—family is the bedrock and anchor to the bottom. Grounding oneself in family provides stability and resilience, guiding individuals through the ebbs and flows of life.

As the KCGS Master's reflections resonate across the service, the legacy of discipline, mentorship, and planning for the future becomes a guiding light for all, ensuring that each enlisted member is not just a part of the service but a harbinger of excellence and leadership in the maritime domain.



Launch Of Key Result Area IV Building A Motivated, Efficient Workforce

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo - Maritime Operations Officer

n our commitment to reform and enhance operational effectiveness, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) embarked on a transformative journey by adopting new measures to shape its future. A pivotal moment in this evolution occurred with the launch of the five-year strategic plan in April 2023, outlining key result areas that serve as guideposts for change management and the realization of our overarching vision. Under the visionary Key Result Area IV, the strategic plan places a spotlight on the establishment of a professional and motivated workforce, recognizing that our personnel are the cornerstone of efficient service delivery. This includes strategic initiatives for staff recruitment, training, retention, and promotion.

Human Resources Instrument: A Blueprint for Excellence

At the heart of this commitment is the implementation of a comprehensive "Human Resources Instrument." This instrumental framework comprises a series of policies crafted to meticulously guide the recruitment, retention, and promotion of our valuable personnel. It is a blueprint designed to align our workforce with the strategic goals of KCGS.

On December 6, 2023, KCGS embarked on a groundbreaking project funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). This initiative aims to empower KCGS in translating key elements of its strategic plan related to human resources into reality.

Partnership with UNODC: Mobilizing Transformation

The INL-funded project, implemented by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), holds a crucial role in catalysing this transformative journey. UNODC, a strategic and neutral international organization, brings substantive expertise in maritime governance and operations, having collaborated with Coast Guard authorities globally for over a decade.

This project focuses on developing strategies, enacting legal amendments, sensitizing staff, and offering standardized training. A pivotal aspect is the localization and production of a "Common Coast Guard Skills Foundation Course" for KCGS officers, including an integrated national instructor development component.

A Glimpse into the Project's Goals:

- Empowering Leadership: A senior advisor will work closely with the executive team, providing strategic guidance and support.
- Foundational Training: The "Common Coast Guard Skills Foundation Course" aims to instill baseline theoretical and practical skills for new maritime law enforcement officers.
- Instructor Development: By utilizing an integrated national instructor method, the project aspires to train 90% of KCGS officers, fostering a standardized skill set across all ranks.
- **Sustainability:** The project focuses on a sustainable approach, gradually transitioning instructor

roles to national officers with consistent opportunities for feedback and mentorship.

The courses, held at the Bandari Maritime Academy in Mombasa, symbolize our commitment to building a motivated and efficient workforce, equipped to navigate the complexities of maritime security. As we embark on this transformative journey, we stand resolute in our dedication to excellence, collaboration, and the safeguarding of our waters.

Together, we chart a course toward a stronger, more resilient KCGS.



Implementation of
Key Result Area IV of the Kenya
Coast Guard Service's Strategic
Plan: Building a Motivated
Efficient Workforce





Strategic Engagements: Calender of Events

A Transformative Journey In Maritime Security

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo & Hannah Mbugua - Maritime Operations Officer & Liaison Officer

25th International Seapower Symposium (ISS-25) & Kenya Coast Guard Technical Study Tour

n a concerted effort to fortify maritime security, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) embarked on two landmark events in September 2023: the 25th International Seapower Symposium (ISS-25) in Newport, Rhode Island, and a Technical Study Tour in the United States, showcasing the Service's commitment to international cooperation and capacity-building.

ISS FORUMS AND PANEL DISCUSSIONS

The ISS-25 convened naval and coast guard leaders from over 100 countries, fostering discussions on shared maritime challenges and opportunities. Themed "Security Through Partnership," the symposium emphasized global collaboration. Outcomes included candid exchanges on the necessity of enhanced cooperation and information sharing to address transnational maritime threats effectively. The importance of a shared posture was underscored as a fundamental approach to mitigating challenges in the maritime domain.

DG - USCG COMMANDANT MEETING

A pivotal moment during ISS-25 was the meeting between the Director General of KCGS and Admiral Fagan Schultz, Commandant of the United States Coast Guard (USCG). The leaders discussed mutual interests, forging a long-term partnership commitment. Notably, Kenya was designated as a country priority partner by the USCG for maritime enhanced security training initiatives, a recognition granted to only six countries globally. This designation positions KCGS strategically to access a range of benefits associated with enhanced status.

USCG TRAINING COLLEGE YORKTOWN

The KCGS technical team visited the USCG Training College Yorktown, known for diverse resident and international training programs. The designation of Kenya as a country priority partner by the USCG for maritime enhanced security training initiatives opens avenues for collaboration, especially in courses related to Search and Rescue (SAR), Small Boat Operator Maintenance, and Tactical Boarding Officers.

USCG MILFORD HAVEN STATION

A visit to the USCG Milford Haven Station highlighted its lean yet highly efficient maritime law enforcement model. The station's volunteer strategy, utilizing retired personnel for crucial services, was identified as an effective approach in expanding skill sets, providing mentorship, and reducing costs. The KCGS sees this as a model worth benchmarking as it expands its services and outreach.

INL - KENYA BILATERAL PROGRAMS

The KCGS delegation engaged with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL), a significant development partner. The study tour reaffirmed INL's commitment to strengthening maritime security capabilities in Kenya. Bilateral priorities, including enhanced security training support, legal regime review, fleet modernization, and equipment support, were identified. The INL emphasized the need for KCGS to play a more prominent role in regional frameworks like the Maritime Security Architecture (MASE) and the Regional Coordination and Operations Centre (RCOC) based in Seychelles. The INL has played a pivotal role as a crucial and significant partner to the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) since the latter's inception. The partnership between INL and KCGS has been instrumental in advancing maritime security capabilities and fostering sustainable development within the Kenyan maritime domain.

KENYA-INL BILATERAL OUTCOMES

The outcomes of the study tour and discussions included a commitment to maritime enhanced security training, legal regime review, fleet modernization, and enhanced Maritime Domain Awareness. The partnership with INL, along with continued engagements with key development partners, is crucial for the sustainable growth of KCGS as well as positioning her within the Western Indian Ocean Region.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The events and engagements in September 2023 have laid a strong foundation for KCGS's strategic vision. The commitment to enhancing maritime security capabilities, fostering international partnerships, and contributing to regional stability in the Western Indian Ocean reflects KCGS's dedication to its mission. Moving forward, recommendations include enhancing the operating budget for KCGS, sustained engagements with key partners, expediting submission of KCGS equipment for inclusion in the MASE program, and continued discussions on acquiring modern surveillance capabilities.

The KCGS expresses gratitude to the INL, for their unwavering support. As the Service positions itself strategically, it looks forward to continued collaboration and progress on its transformative journey in maritime security.

Empowering Maritime Excellence: KCGS Unveils Uncrewed Airborne Systems (UAS) Founding Workshop

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo

n a groundbreaking stride towards modernizing maritime operations, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) hosted the Uncrewed Airborne Systems (UAS) Founding Workshop on October 6, 2023. This transformative initiative, realized through collaborative efforts with the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG), marks a pivotal moment in shaping the strategic roadmap for the adoption of UAS capabilities within the KCGS. UAS systems, often referred to as drones, emerge as a force multiplier in the Maritime Law Enforcement Spectrum, offering unparalleled benefits in situational awareness and force protection. The collaboration with the Canadian Coast Guard, known for its expertise and innovation in maritime operations, has been instrumental in charting the course for the integration of UAS capabilities into the fabric of the KCGS.

Unlocking the Potential of UAS for Maritime Excellence

The Unmanned Aircraft Systems bring forth the potential to revolutionize the Kenya Coast Guard Service's ability to fulfill its mandate, particularly excelling in addressing mission operations characterized by "the four D's": the Dull, the Dirty, the Dangerous, and the Denied. There is a resounding consensus that now is the opportune moment for KCGS to embrace UAS technology, and for good reason.

- Cost-Effective Capabilities: UAS provides capabilities similar to other assets, often at a fraction of the cost and with heightened safety for personnel.

- Versatility in Operations:

These systems can be seamlessly integrated into multiple operations and can collaborate effectively with various agencies.

- Enhanced Situational Awareness: Category B UAS (2-25 kg) offer increased situational awareness around vessels and from shore, while Category C (>25 kg) provide wide area search capabilities.

A Strategic Vision Realized: UAS Five-Year Roadmap 2023-2028

The collaborative workshop between CCG and KCGS has yielded a comprehensive framework to guide the integration of UAS capabilities effectively. Jointly developed In Service



Support Concept, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), and the Concept of Operations (CONOPs) lay the foundation for the seamless deployment of UAS within the service.

The Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) Five-Year Roadmap 2023-2028, aligned with the overarching KCGS Strategic Roadmap, represents a strategic vision for the future. The roadmap outlines a timeline for achieving Initial Operating Capability (IOC) and eventual Full Operating Capability (FOC), ensuring a systematic and phased approach to the integration of UAS capabilities within KCGS operations.

Through strategic collaborations with the CCG, KCGS positions itself at the forefront of maritime innovation, paving the way for the acquisition and utilization of UAS capabilities. The effective incorporation of UAS into the KCGS arsenal is not just a technological leap; it is a commitment to maritime excellence and the safeguarding of our coastal waters.

The sky is no longer the limit; it's the next frontier in maritime security for the Kenya Coast Guard Service.









Strengthening Maritime Safety: Kenyan Coast Guard Service And Expertise France Collaboration

© Expertise France

n recent months, the Kenyan Coast Guard Service (KCGS) has made remarkable strides in ensuring the safety and security of coastal communities. Partnering with Expertise France and funded by the European Union, this collaboration is an integral part of the Go Blue project, aimed at advancing the Blue Economy agenda across six Kenyan coastal counties.

Safety training for fishers: gaining new skills while raising awareness on the maritime domain

Fishing, considered one of the world's riskiest professions, presents numerous challenges for those venturing into the open seas. KCGS, in tandem with Expertise France, initiated a safety train-

ing to equip 1,920 Kenyan fishers from 77 Beach Management Units with vital knowledge on life-saving techniques and safe work practices. Each participant not only gained new safety skills but also received essential safety equipment, including life jackets and waterproof phone bags, enhancing their ability to call for help during emergencies.

Emmanuel Musuko, a fisherman from the Kilifi Beach Management Unit, shares his transformational experience: "In the past when we capsized at sea, everyone swam to his own safety. But now I have learned that it is very important to save yourself and the life of others. We did not have the skills to help others out at sea, but this training has helped us a lot."

Navigating maritime chal-

lenges: the Community Watch Programme

As a frontrunner in maritime security governance in East Africa, Kenya pioneers innovative solutions to tackle maritime challenges. KCGS, in collaboration with Expertise France, initiated the Community Watch Programme, a pilot initiative aimed at strengthening the relationship between coastal communities and maritime law enforcement actors. At the heart of this program is a smartphone application called 'Usalama Baharini - Kenya' ('safety at sea' in Kiswahili), establishing a direct communication channel between coastal communities and maritime safety and security agencies.





Scheduled for full implementation in spring 2024, the app streamlines reporting of suspicious activities at sea and bolsters search and rescue efforts. Brian Mwia Mutongi, a fisher at the Mtongwe Beach Management Unit in Mombasa, expressed the app's significance: "In the past, we faced challenges in reporting maritime illicit activities. However, anonymity is guaranteed with the app. It's user-friendly and will safeguard us from dangers at sea and along the shores of Mtongwe Beach."

Fostering operational ex-

cellence: the KCGS Operation Centre

The collaborative efforts of KCGS and its partners highlight the paramount importance of cooperation in addressing the challenges faced by coastal communities and advancing sustainable practices in the maritime sector. With support from Go Blue, KCGS will reach a key milestone in 2024 with the establishment of the KCGS Operation Centre and the revamping of the Joint Operation Centre. KCGS officers are receiving extensive trainings on Standard Operating Proce-

Information Sharing (IORIS), and situational exercises, which all together mark crucial steps underlining the operational excellence of the KCGS for a maritime space in Kenya.



Collaborating Partnerships























KCGS And The Multi-Agency Architecture

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo

he operating environment within Kenya's territorial waters is dynamic and often fraught with various security challenges. In addition to traditional threats, contemporary issues such as organized crime, environmental degradation, and illegal resource extraction pose significant risks to national security. Recognizing the need for a specialized maritime law enforcement agency, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) was established under the Ministry of Interior.

On 19th November 2018, H.E the President launched KCGS as part of the government's strategic vision to harness the potential of Kenya's Blue Economy for sustainable economic growth, social development, and environmental conservation. At its core, KCGS is tasked with enforcing maritime laws, safeguarding lives, protecting the marine environment, and securing territorial waters.

Embracing the Multi-Agency Approach:

KCGS operates within a unique multi-agency framework that emphasizes interoperability and synergy among various stakeholders. This approach is instrumental in enhancing the service's operational effectiveness and response capabilities. By fostering strong partnerships and collaboration, KCGS leverages the expertise and resources of different agencies to address complex maritime challenges.

Active Participation in Inter-Agency Structures:

In line with government directives to strengthen inter-agency cooperation, KCGS actively participates in forums such as the Border Control and Operations Coordination Committee. These engagements have yielded tangible results in border governance, particularly given the numerous points of entry and exit within Kenya's jurisdiction. Through collaborative efforts, KCGS has developed standard operating procedures (SOPs) to enhance coordinated border management at land, air, and sea ports of entry. These SOPs serve as guiding principles for frontline border agencies and law enforcement entities, facilitating seamless coordination and cooperation.

Strategic Advantages of the Multi-Agency Outlook:

The multi-agency approach provides KCGS with several strategic advantages, including:

Enhanced Operational Capabilities: By leveraging the expertise and resources of partner agencies, KCGS can effectively respond to diverse maritime threats and challenges.

Comprehensive Border Management: Through coordinated efforts with other border agencies, KCGS strengthens border governance and ensures the integrity of Kenya's territorial boundaries. Information Sharing and Intelligence Collaboration: The

multi-agency framework facilitates seamless information sharing and intelligence collaboration, enabling KCGS to stay ahead of emerging threats and trends in the maritime domain.

Capacity Building and Training Opportunities:

Collaboration with partner agencies creates opportunities for capacity building and training, ensuring that KCGS personnel are equipped with the necessary skills and knowledge to perform their duties effectively.

MOUs:

KCGS has signed different MOUs amongst different agencies outlining areas of cooperation joined initiatives for easy coordination aimed at forstering collaborations and communication between agencies.

"KCGS remains committed to embracing the multi-agency approach as a cornerstone of its operational strategy. By fostering strong partnerships and collaboration, KCGS continues to enhance its capabilities and contribute to the security and prosperity of Kenya's maritime domain."

The KCGS Corporate Social Responsibilities Highlights

By Director Enforcement and Emergency Response

earshore habitats of Kenya including coral reefs, seagrass, and mangroves, are under threat from the pressures of overfishing and climate change. To foster local stewardship of these areas the Kenyan Coast Guard Service works with other government agencies and the local communities enforcement maritime law and marine ecosystems and habitats protection. In this context,in this regard, KCGS has partnered with othe Agencies with a stake in the maritime domain and local communities along the coastline and major inland lakes to improve the health, quality, and resilience of habitats and fish stocks through joint beach clean ups and mangrove planting.

Beach Clean Ups

On 16th September 2023 the Kenya Coast Guard Service partici-

pated in the International Coastal Clean up (ICC) event organized by KWS Assistant Director Coast Conservation Area. Over Six (6) tonnes of marine litter was collected and sorted out for proper management including recycling. KCGS was awarded an outstanding participation certificate.

Mangrove Planting /Tree Planting

In line with Kenya's Landscape and Ecosystem Restoration Programme -Towards Growing of Fifteen (15) Billion Trees by 2032 to Increase Tree Cover, the Kenya Gazette Notice No.15238 dated 6th November 2023 and the Kenya Coast Guard Service purchased 3400 trees and distributed to all its stations to be planted on Monday 13th November. The day was marked as a public holiday to allow the public

engage in tree planting countrywide. The Mombasa county tree planting day was held in Mikindani in Jomvu Sub-county, Mombasa County and the CS for Public Works, Transport and Infrastructure lead the Government dignitaries who graced the occasion.

Previously in 2019, KCGS partnered with TSunza Beach Management United in Kwale and planted 3000 Mangrove trees.

In our Strategic Plan, KCGS intends to plant over 1million trees in its Area of Responsibility, a task she is committed to deliver.



KCGS Conquers Giants At Mombasa International Ask Show 2023

By Director Enforcement and Emergency Response

or the second year running, the Kenya Coast Guard Service participated in the Mombasa Agricultural Show (ASK) held between 6th to 10th September 2023 at Mkomani Show Ground Mombasa. The ASK Show theme for the year 2023 was " "Promoting Climate Smart Agriculture and Trade Initiatives for Sustainable Economic Growth". Among the many categories that the Kenya Coast Guard Service registered for judgement was "The Best Government Ministry Stand" which we scooped

Number One and received best trophy and a certificate, thus emerging at the top over other



Government Ministries and Parastatal stands.

This was the second year since its establishment that KCGS participated in the Mombasa International ASK Show. In the year 2022, the service was number two in the same category, a clear indication of our focus to deliver and win.



Fisheries Enforcement In The Year 2023

By Directorate Enforcement and Emergency Response

ish remain a major source of protein in the diet of many communities along the coast and inland waters of Kenya. Management and enforcement of these fisheries resources is therefore very crucial for livelihoods now and in the future. A major part of managing and enforcing fishery is to understand the fishing gears and methods and how they impact on the stocks and the ecosystems. The nature of Kenya's artisanal fisheries both along the coast and inland waters, which target many species using different gears makes them complicated to manage and enforce. A clear understanding of the gears that are used, how they are deployed, their legal status and their impacts on habitat and the fish populations is crucial to effective fisheries management and enforcement.

It's the duty of every fisheries manager and a fisheries law enforcement officer to understand clearly the terminogy 'IUU' fishing which can be defined as follows:

Illegal: Fishing and fishing-related activities conducted in contravention of national, regional and international laws and regulations.

Unreported: Non-reporting, misreporting or under-reporting of

information on fishing operations and their catches.

Unregulated:-Fishing by

"Stateless" vessels, Fishing in convention national fishery waters or areas of RFMOs by non-party vessels, Fishing activities which are not regulated by States and cannot be easily monitored and accounted for, Fishing in areas or for fish stocks for which there are no conservation or management measures.

Section 8 (j) of the Kenya Coast Guard Act mandates the KCGS officers to enforce fisheries law in relation to fishing wheres fishing is an activity to catch fish in the water. In enforcing fisheries, KCGS officers are supposed to have basic understanding of Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance which are well explained as:

Monitoring - the continuous requirement for the measurement of fishing effort characteristics and resource yields;

Control - the regulatory conditions under which the exploitation of the resource may be conducted; and

Surveillance - the degree and types of observations required to

maintain compliance with the regulatory controls imposed on fishing activities

In relation to fisheries surveillance, enforcement and compliance, KCGS in partnership and coodination with other agencies such KeFS, carried out the following activities to ensure the sustainability of the fisheries resources;

- Policed Kenya Fishery Waters to check for unlawful fishing activities including fight against IUU.
- Checked the validity of fisherman's licences and arrested those found non compliant.
- Checked illegal fishing gears and methods to ensure compliance with fisheries regulations.
- Boarded, searched and inspect suspected fishing vessels to ensure non participation in fisheries related crimes.
- Searched and inspected suspected places and structures for illegally caught fish to ensure they do not have access to markets.
- Worked with KeFs to seized and detained offending fishing vessels especially prawn trawlers in Malindi Ungwana bay that were found violate the Prawn Management Plan by either encroaching the shallow waters (0-3Nm) and non use of Turtle Excluder Devices

(TEDs)

- Examined documents on fishing vessels and other vessels suspected of illegal fishing activities
- Arrested, Investigated and prosecuted fisheries offenses including IUU.
- Disposed by burning illegal fishing gears or stored them for future destruction after court determination
- Kept records and data on fisheries enforcement.
- Participated on various meeting and for a and advised on fisheries enforcement strategies
- Enforced Port State Measures
 Control by providing port security
- Conduct joint operations with other maritime stakeholders including KeFs, KMA, KWS, KRA and Customs to contain maritime crimes.
- Participate Sustainable fisheries, campaigns and cerebrations including World Oceans Day and World Fisheries Day
- Investigated turtle deaths in watamu, malindi and Kipini areas as part of marine resources conservation.
- Prepared evidence and statements for prosecution cases for fisheries related crimes
- Ensured the protection of fish breeding habitats and other critical marine habitats including Marine

Protected Areas.

- Handled general inquiries from the public and community sensitization on responsible fishing practices in all areas of responsibility.

Under the year under review KCGS stations along the coast and inland stations conducted patrols, arrests and confiscation of illegal fishing gears including mono filament nets, beach seines, mosquito nets which were either having undersized mesh size, non biodegradable or were contributing to environmental degradation. The arrested persons were aligned in various courts in the country and fined for various fisheries offenses while the seized illegal fishing gears were either destroyed by burning or were kept in stores awaiting court orders to be destroyed by burning.

The level of compliance with fisheries law compliance increased from 30% to 60% in all areas of KCGS area of responsibility due sustained patrols both target led and for deterrence . KCGS in collaboration with Kenya Fisheries conducted a multi-agency inshore and Offshore patrols under the KEMSED project also con-

ducted. All these activities led to reduction in IUU fishing activities within the Kenya fishery waters both along the coast and inland waters.

KCGS officers sensitized fishers on legal and Illegal fishing gears and methods, held consultative inter agency meeting with stakeholders all geared towards sustainable utilization of fisheries resources and good working relation between various stakeholders in the fisheries industry, communities and Beach Management Units. KCGS was also able to restore order and resolve conflicts in Lake Naivasha between various stakeholders. Community Based Organizations and the Beach Management Units. KCGS Port Victoria Station was also able to negotiate with Ugandan authorities for the release of arrested and detained fishermen and their boats from Uganda, contained criminal cartels in the lake and restored order and harmony.

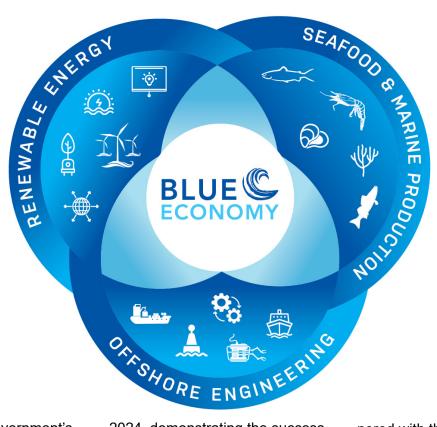






KCGS As The Catalyst Unlocking The Silent Blue Economy

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo



n pursuit of the government's commitment to bolster the Blue Economy and create employment opportunities, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) embarked on a transformative initiative in collaboration with the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA). Under the directive of the President, KCGS and KMA were tasked with training and certifying 2,500 Coxswains (Level 3) to equip them with the necessary skills for venturing into the sea for their daily livelihoods. Remarkably, this initiative surpassed expectations, with the certification of 5,532 youths on 20th February

2024, demonstrating the success of KCGS's efforts in unlocking the potential of the silent Blue Economy.

Enhancing Safety and Security at Sea:

Kenya's vibrant fishing industry sustains the livelihoods of thousands of families along the coastal regions. However, fishing is not without risks, and fishermen often face perilous situations at sea. To address these challenges and improve the safety and security of fishers, particularly those belonging to coastal Beach Management Units (BMUs), KCGS part-

nered with the Go Blue Project to implement the Safety Training for Fishers (STF) program. Since its inception in 2021, the program has made significant strides, with over 860 fishers trained and 20 KCGS officers equipped as Trainers of Trainers (ToTs). The STF program aims not only to provide training and safety equipment but also to foster a safety culture among fishing communities, ultimately enhancing resilience and promoting Search and Rescue (SAR) prevention efforts.

Empowering Coastal

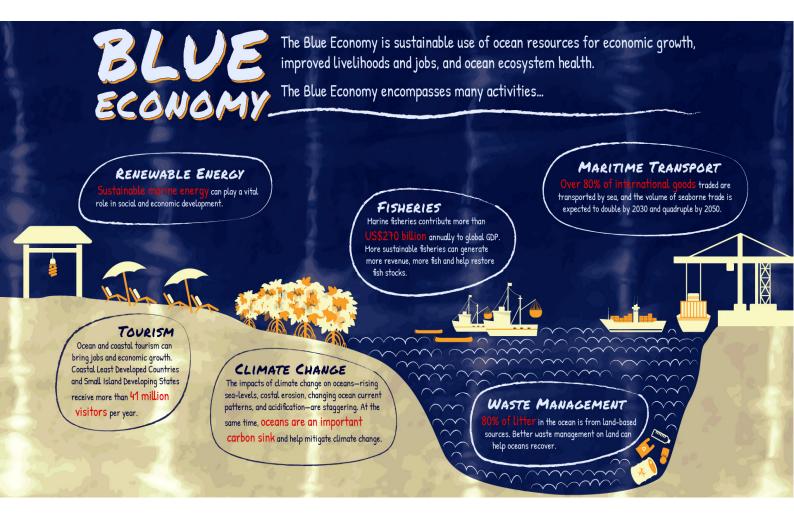
Communities:

Central to KCGS's community engagement strategy is the Community Watch Program (CWP), a groundbreaking initiative developed in collaboration with Go Blue. The CWP strengthens collaboration between maritime law enforcement agencies and coastal communities by providing training in safety protocols and developing innovative communication tools such as the Usalama Baharini app. This app, slated for launch in April 2024, will enable coastal communities to report suspicious activities at sea anonymously, thereby enhancing maritime domain awareness and facilitating real-time communication between stakeholders.

Promoting Safety Culture and Environmental Stewardship:

As part of its holistic approach to maritime safety and security, KCGS recognizes the importance of promoting a safety culture and environmental stewardship among coastal communities. Through initiatives like the provision of SOLAS-approved life jackets, watertight phone bags, and blackboards, KCGS aims to instill best practices and raise awareness of hazards and risk factors at sea. By empowering coastal communities and fostering partnerships with BMUs, KCGS contributes to the sustainable development of Kenya's Blue Economy while safeguarding its marine resources for future generations.

"KCGS's unwavering commitment to unlocking the potential of the silent Blue Economy underscores its pivotal role in promoting maritime safety, security, and sustainable development. Through innovative programs and strategic partnerships, KCGS continues to lead the way in harnessing Kenya's maritime potential and ensuring the well-being of coastal communities."





Project Impact Assessment: Regional Working Group (RWG) -"Countering Transnational Organized Crimes (TOC) Threats In Lake Victoria" - A Case Study Of **Enhanced Cross Border Coordination**

Editorial Feature

Preamble

nitiated with the aim of fortifying the capabilities of border authorities, the three-year project addressing Transnational Organized Crimes (TOC) around Lake Way Forward Victoria has transformed into a collaborative effort among Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. The formation of the Regional Working Group (RWG) has been pivotal in fostering dialogue, sharing insights, and jointly identifying solutions to combat TOC in the region.

Expected Outcomes

The project delineates four key outcomes:

- a. Effective coordination among targeted countries, establishing structured collaboration among key border management agencies.
- b. Strengthening the effective management of ports by border management agencies.
- c. Capacity building among agencies and stakeholders to combat maritime TOC and Trafficking in Persons (TRIP).
- d. Improved engagement of border communities with authorities to deter TOC.

Assessment

The Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS), as an integral part of the RWG, actively contributed to the project's realization. Conducting an ongoing impact assessment, KCGS observes that all project outcomes have been comprehensively achieved. Notably, the development focus on institutional and socio-cultural aspects has enhanced the operational capacity of frontline officials, fostered formal and informal coordination structures, and facilitated information-sharing mechanisms.

KCGS's involvement in the RWG has facilitated direct communication and coordination, providing updated maritime information to regional bodies like the East African Community (EAC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA). The positive impacts affirm the project's relevance and assure

its sustainability, delivering significant value for the resources invested.

In moving forward, it is recommended that the project continues in its established form, with a strategic shift towards integrated exercises replacing conventional workshops. Such exercises are anticipated to fortify informal relationships among frontline officials, enhancing the project's expected outcomes. Furthermore, conducting exercises among RWG members will strengthen coordination platforms and existing border governance structures, contributing to sustained success.

Closing Message

The KCGS expresses profound gratitude to the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) for being a linchpin in this transformative process. Through INL's interventions, KCGS has solidified its national standing and emerged as a regional force through diverse efforts, including capacity building, infrastructure development, international outreach assistance, and general equipment support.

Moreover, KCGS has engaged in twenty-two (22) high-level meetings, mostly with Ugandan authorities, through the National Government Administration Officers (NGAO) within the Multi-Dimensional Architecture (Whole of Government Approach) initiative during the calendar year 2023. These cross-border interactions led to the release of 183 Kenyans who had been arrested by our neighbouring brothers, and property worth more than Ksh 8,000,000.00/=, comprising fishing gear and boats, was also returned to their rightful owners following collaborative engagements with the said authorities. As we look ahead, KCGS remains committed to fortifying partnerships, leveraging initiatives, and realizing the strategic goals outlined in our overarching plan.

AT A GLANCE



Official Launch Of KCGS Strategic Plan

KCGS & Expertise France

Usalama Baharini - Kenya

A Coastal Watch Application

KCGS Operations Centre (XOC)



Go Blue Project in Kenya Funded by the European Union Implemented by Expertise France For the Kenya Coast Guard Service











Training on Conflict over shared water (Cairo) Egypt 24th September to 12th October, 2023.

AT A GLANCE

IORIS Summit in-Cape Town South Africa





3rd Coast Guard Global Summit, Tokyo Japan Oct. 30th to Nov.2nd 2023.

Aerial tour of Inland Squadron with our esteemed Development Partners



NEWS FROM THE Strontline

Kilindini KCGS Station Safeguarding The Maritime Gateway

By Lt Nancy Nyaguthii - OIC Kilindini Station

ituated at the bustling Kilindini port in Mombasa County, Kilindini KCGS Station stands as the cornerstone of the Kenya Coast Guard Service, particularly within the Coastal Squadron. This strategic location places the station at the forefront of safeguarding the vital Port of Mombasa, a gateway and exit point for cargo destined for a vast hinterland, encompassing countries such as Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania, South Sudan, Somalia, and Ethiopia.

Gateway to the Region

Managed by the Kenya Ports Authority (KPA), the Port of Mombasa includes Kilindini Harbour, Port Reitz, the Old Port, Port Tudor, and the tidal waters surrounding Mombasa Island. With a capacity of 2.65 million TEUs, the port is a linchpin of the region's economic activities, serving as the primary conduit for trade and commerce.

Key Responsibilities

Kilindini KCGS Station plays a pivotal role in executing the Port & Coastal defence of the Port of Mombasa in collaboration with various government agencies. Its jurisdiction spans from Tiwi in the south to Kilifi in the north, covering a vast and crucial maritime territory. The station's personnel are engaged in mission-specific roles, ranging from enforcement and coastal protection to customs, immigration, Fisheries and sanitation measures.

Training & Capacity Building

Throughout the year, the station's personnel have actively participated in various training opportunities aimed at enhancing their skills and knowledge. This commitment ensures that Kilindini station remains at the forefront of international best practices, projecting a competitive posture globally.

Multi-Agency Collaboration

Leveraging its success on the Multi-Agency Architecture, Kilindini KCGS Station has seamlessly integrated its operations with other government agencies. This collaborative approach has been instrumental in executing missions efficiently and achieving excellence in diverse fields.

Milestones & Achievements

The station has achieved significant milestones, including efforts in compliance, enforcement, deterrence, physical security, platform maintenance, and community policing. Embracing a risk-management approach, the station actively participates in Port Security Measures, maintaining security zones, fostering Maritime Domain Awareness, and updating the Recognized Maritime Picture.

Challenges & Solutions

While facing challenges such as maritime terrorism, sea robbery, cargo theft, stowaways, and alien smuggling, Kilindini Station remains proactive in implementing site-specific measures. Recognizing that port security is integral to maritime trade competitiveness, the station contin-

ues to be a beacon of efficiency, security, and resilience in the face of evolving threats.

As we reflect on the achievements and unwavering commitment of Kilindini KCGS Station in 2023, it is evident that the station is not only a guardian of maritime integrity but also a key player in advancing the economic interests of the region through secure and efficient maritime operations.



KCGS Lapsset Station Safeguarding Maritime Integrity And Enhancing Security In Lapsset

By Sgt Daniel Atieli - Lapsset Station 2IC

n the dynamic realm of maritime law enforcement, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) Station based in LAPSSET has emerged as a crucial player, standing sentinel over one of Kenya's key ports and coastal areas. Throughout the year 2023, the station has tirelessly executed its mandate, contributing significantly to port and coastal security, and showcasing commendable achievements in diverse operational spheres.

Enforcement Excellence

The station has demonstrated unwavering commitment to enforcing maritime regulations, ensuring the safety of seafarers and protecting the marine environment. Notably, arrests were made for various violations, including operating boats without safety appliances, such as life jackets, within Mkanda channel waters. Fines were imposed on offenders, sending a clear message about the importance of compliance.

Crucial Role in Environmental Protection

Lapsset Station has been actively involved in combating environmental violations, specifically addressing issues related to transporting forest produce. These efforts align with the broader mission of safeguarding the delicate balance of marine ecosystems and ensuring

sustainable practices.
Successful Distress Response and Medevac Operations

Responding to distress alerts is a hallmark of KCGS's commitment to saving lives at sea.

Lapsset Station has been instrumental in executing successful rescues, with a notable number of cases involving foreigners. Moreover, the unit has facilitated more than twelve medevac operations, providing critical medical assistance to individuals in need.

Force Protection and Diplomatic Support

The station has played a pivotal



role in providing force protection to visiting naval ships, exemplified by the successful support extended to the Indian Naval ship Sumedha. Hosting 18 officers and 122 other ranks, the port of Lamu witnessed three incident-free days, showcasing the professionalism and efficiency of the Lapsset Station.

Operation Dhibiti Mafuriko:

A Humanitarian Commitment In a year marked by unprecedented floods in Tana River County, Lapsset Station rose to the occasion during Operation Dhibiti Mafuriko. The station's swift and effective response included the retrieval of a deceased individual, the evacuation of GSU officers from Kulesa camp, and the rescue and evacuation of hundreds of people from various flooded areas. In addition, the station played a vital role in distributing relief food and transporting sick and deceased individuals to safety.

Conclusion:

A Year of Excellence and Compassion

As we reflect on the achievements of KCGS Lapsset Station in 2023, it is evident that the station has not only excelled in its primary mission of maritime law enforcement but has also demonstrated a deep sense of responsibility in humanitarian efforts. The dedication, professionalism, and adaptability exhibited by the station underscore its pivotal role in ensuring the security, safety, and well-being of all those navigating the coastal waters under its watch.



Lake Baringo KCGS Station A Year Of Vigilance, Collaboration, And Achievements

By Ssgt Omar Mohamed - Station IC



estled along the picturesque shores of Lake Baringo, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) Detachment at Kampi ya Samaki, Baringo County, stands as a vigilant guardian of the freshwater expanse covering an area of approximately 265KM2.

Coverage Activities and Community Engagement

Throughout the year, Lake Baringo KCGS Detachment has been actively engaged in a series of coverage activities, demonstrating a commitment to community involvement and awareness. From groundbreaking ceremonies and school coverage days to conservancy events and annual celebrations, the detachment has woven itself into the fabric of the local community.

The groundbreaking day for KCGS offices and quarters at Kampi ya Samaki marked a signif-

icant step in establishing a permanent and impactful presence along the lake's shores. Engaging with the community, the detachment covered events like the Kokwa Primary School coverage day, showcasing the collaboration with the Baringo County security team.

Participation in Ruko Conservancy events, including World Giraffe Day celebration and the Annual General Meeting, highlights the detachment's dedication to environmental conservation and community engagement.

Joint Operations and Stakeholder Collaboration

Lake Baringo KCGS Detachment has been a proactive force in joint operations, collaborating with key stakeholders such as Beach Management Units (BMUs), Kenya Forest Service (KFS), and Ruko Conservancy. These operations aim to combat illegal fishing activities and ensure the sustainable use of Lake Baringo's resources.

Stakeholder meetings have been a regular occurrence, addressing challenges like illegal fishing activities and fostering conservation efforts. The detachment's involvement underscores the importance of a collective approach to addressing maritime issues.

Search and Rescue Missions

Responding to emergencies, the detachment has conducted numerous search and rescue missions, exemplifying its dedication to ensuring the safety of the lake's users. Instances of drowning and mechanical breakdowns have been met with swift and effective responses, showcasing the detachment's commitment to preserving lives.

Lake Patrols and Public

Awareness

With daily sea & foot patrols conducted, the detachment has been unwavering in its efforts to curb illegal fishing and maintain peace within the region. Public awareness and sensitization campaigns have reached all six registered BMUs along the lake's shores, emphasizing water conservation, legal fishing methods, and collaboration with authorities.

Fatigue Exercise and Environmental Stewardship

Officers have actively participated in fatigue exercises, contributing to the cleanliness of boats, rifles, and the environment. The collaboration on tree planting day further solidifies the detachment's commitment to environmental stewardship and community involvement.

Challenges and Resilience

Facing challenges such as human-wildlife conflicts and rough waters, Lake Baringo KCGS Detachment has remained resilient. Instances of hippo and crocodile

attacks, particularly on domestic animals, highlight the need for continued efforts in mitigating such conflicts.

Achievements and Progress

Amidst challenges, Lake Baringo KCGS Station has made significant strides in achieving its mandate. Continuous sensitization efforts have led to a reduction in incidents, particularly cases of crocodile and hippo attacks.

Frequent patrols and stakeholder meetings have contributed to decreased maritime-related cases and tribal animosity, fostering a more secure environment for fishermen and communities. Most importantly, the construction of the station utilizing galvanised steel structures provides permanent basing for the unit as well as improving habitability/comfort of the sailors.

As we reflect on the year gone by, Lake Baringo KCGS Detachment stands as a beacon of vigilance, collaboration, and achievement, ensuring the safety and security of Lake Baringo and its communities. The dedication of the officers and their proactive approach bodes well for the continued success of KCGS operations in the region.









Lamu Maritime Watch A Year Of Triumphs And Collaborations

By Lt James Nkoyam - Station OIC

s we bid farewell to 2023, the Lamu station reflects on a year of remarkable achievements, highlighting the dedication and commitment of our team in safeguarding Lamu County's coastal waters. Led by Lt James Nkoyam, the team has demonstrated resilience and prowess in addressing various maritime challenges, from illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing to ensuring the safety of both local and international visitors

A highlight of the year was

the visit of the cruise ship HS Diana on 3rd November, 2023. Anchoring outside Shela anchorages, the ship brought forty-six passengers for a day-long excursion in Lamu. The meticulous planning and execution by the KCGS Lamu Station ensured a smooth visit, with all passengers safely returning to the ship without any untoward incidents.

In December 2023, KCGS
Lamu Station welcomed
Indian Naval Ship Sumedha
that graced the port of Lamu.
This maritime event garnered
attention and admiration as

the vessel, with its impressive complement of 18 officers and 122 crew members. The event also extended beyond the mere docking of a naval ship, marking a noteworthy chapter in the diplomatic and maritime relations between Kenya and India.

The end of November witnessed the KCGS LAMU STATION providing security coverage during the Lamu Cultural Festivals, ensuring the safety of both local and international dignitaries, including ambassadors and governors. The seamless execution of this security operation marked an-



other achievement for the unit in maintaining order during large-scale events.

Swift Seas KCGS Lamu's Heroic SAR Mission

In a commendable display of maritime proficiency, KCGS Lamu Station successfully executed a daring rescue mission to save the crew of the distressed boat Safina. The vessel had encountered a perilous situation after colliding with a coral reef while ferrying sand to Kizingitini. The swift response from KCGS Lamu Station not only prevented loss of life, but also showcased the teams unparalleled effectiveness in conducting

SAR operations.

Enforcement

In a proactive stance against illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing activities,



KCGS Lamu led a patrol team on an enforcement mission, focusing on the notorious

areas of Bandari-Salama and Ngoi. This initiative resulted in the seizure of eleven monofilament nets, marking a significant stride in curbing the

IUU menace within Lamu County. Concurrently, in collaboration with Lamu BMUs, KCGS also conducted routine sensitization sessions for fisher folks and vendors in Lamu.

This year, Lamu County remained accident-free, and we set sail into 2024, let wisdom be our North Star, guiding us towards new horizons of excellence and safety. Lamu County can look forward to another year of maritime excellence nder the vigilant watch of the

under the vigilant watch of the KCGS Lamu Station.



Unlocking Maritime Marvels Mbita KCGS Station's Resounding Symphony

By Sub Lt Austin Kikuvi - Mbita Station OIC



Pelcome to the aquatic realm of Mbita KCGS Station, where the waves whisper tales and the station stands as the beacon of maritime guardianship. Established on September 1, 2021, this station nestled in the heart of Mbita town within Homabay County is no ordinary outpost—it's a strategic masterpiece.

Gateway to the Region:

Mbita KCGS Station holds the keys to the gateway that connects Kenya, Uganda, and The United Republic of Tanzania. Positioned on the shores of Lake Victoria, it safeguards the open border—a porous border that unites three East African nations. But Mbita is not just a station; it's a strategic player in securing the vast expanse of water that joins these nations.

Covering Three Counties

and Counting:

Encompassing Homabay, Siaya, and Migori Counties, Mbita KCGS Station casts its protective net wide. From the waters of Kendu Bay in Rachuonyo sub-county to the serene Muhuru Bay in Migori County, the station is the silent guardian of maritime safety and security across the region.

Island Gems in the Crown:

Picture this: Mageta, Ndeda, Oyamo, Ngodhe, Rusinga, Takawiri, Mfangano, Ringiti, Remba, Kiwa, and the famed Migingo—the islands that make up the station's realm. Each island tells a story, and Mbita listens, guarding these maritime treasures with unwavering commitment.

Responsibilities that Echo:

Mbita KCGS Station is not just a guardian; it's a custodian of responsibilities. From maritime safety and security to pollution control and sanitation measures, from search and rescue operations to protecting maritime resources—the station orchestrates a symphony of duties that resonate far beyond the shores.

Masters of the Maritime Craft:

Training and capacity building are the anchors that keep Mbita personnel prepared for the challenges that dance on the waves. Armed with expertise acquired through diverse programs, these guardians ensure competence, consistency, and effective task performance.

Harmony in Collaboration:

In the spirit of unity, Mbita KCGS Station embraces a multi-agency approach. Collaborating with other government agencies, it stands at the forefront of countering transnational threats. Through joint patrols and infor-

mation sharing, Mbita exemplifies success in Lake Victoria. the power of collaboration in securing the lake.

Sailing through Achievements:

Mbita Station has etched milestones in the liquid canvas. Suppression of illegal fishing, combating organized crime, enhancing compliance with maritime safety, reducing illegal immigration, and bolstering search and rescue services—the station's achievements are waves of

Navigating Challenges, **Charting Solutions:**

In the face of challenges like non-compliance, disorder in the boat transport sector, and the presence of organized criminal groups, Mbita KCGS Station stands resilient. By addressing issues like inadequate capacities and fraudulent documents, the station charts a course toward a safer and more secure maritime landscape.

Future Horizons:

The journey continues for Mbita KCGS Station. Facing challenges head-on, embracing collaboration, and safeguarding the maritime marvels, the station charts a course toward a future where the waters remain secure, and the waves echo tales of triumph.

Mbita KCGS Station—a maritime masterpiece, a guardian of the waves, and a silent hero in the aquatic symphony.





Shimoni KCGS Station Safeguarding Maritime Frontiers With Valor

By Lt John Ombongi - Shimoni Station OIC

estled in the heart of Lungalunga Sub-county, Kwale County, within the Coastal Squadron region, Shimoni KCGS Station stands as a stalwart guardian of maritime safety and security. This tourist haven in southeastern Kenya, near the Tanzanian border and Wasin Island, is not just a picturesque coastal gem; it's a strategic outpost with a mission to enforce and protect.

Key Responsibilities: A Maritime Shield

Shimoni Coast Guard Station plays a pivotal role in upholding maritime safety and security in the south-eastern region of coastal Kenya. Its mission extends beyond routine patrols; it involves the apprehension and prosecution of maritime offenders, ensuring that unlawful

fishing activities are curtailed, and lives are safeguarded.

Facing Challenges, Forging Partnerships:

In the dynamic maritime landscape, Shimoni KCGS Station faces its fair share of challenges. Illegal fishing and security concerns emerge as formidable adversaries. To counter these challenges, Shimoni Station engages in partnerships with local Beach Management Units (BMUs). These collaborations provide crucial insights, extending beyond the station's reach, offering information on illegal fishing, the use of destructive gears, and security matters within the jurisdiction.

Achieving Maritime Milestones:

Shimoni KCGS Station has etched

remarkable achievements, illustrating its commitment to maritime excellence. In the year 2023, the station orchestrated a series of successes, showcasing its dedication to its duties.

- One outstanding feat was the rescue of 14 fishermen at Mpunguti II area in Lungalunga Sub-county, Kwale County. Mechanical problems due to adverse weather conditions left them stranded, and Shimoni Station swiftly intervened, ensuring their safe return.
- The station exhibited exceptional valor by evacuating Form Four students of Ramisi Mixed Secondary School during the El Nino rainfall. The flooding of River Ramisi along the boundary of Lungalunga and Msambweni sub-counties threatened



the students' safety, and Shimoni KCGS Station's rapid response ensured their timely rescue.

- In the realm of Search and Rescue (SAR) operations, the station show-cased its prowess by retrieving three drowned bodies and recovering a government agency vehicle swept away. Through meticulous efforts, Shimoni KCGS Station demonstrated its unwavering commitment to saving lives and ensuring the safety of maritime activities.
- Additionally, the station played a pivotal role in rescuing four crews of the Kenya Fisheries Service (KeFS) at high seas when MV. UVUVI 2 faced engine failure while towing UVUVI 3. A distress call triggered Shimoni's prompt response, underscoring its dedication to protecting those navigating the maritime domain.
- On the educational front, Shimoni KCGS Station proactively engaged in mass sensitization training for fishermen at Vanga. The focus was on promoting the use of legal fishing gears, raising awareness about the impact of illegal fishing practices, and instilling a safety culture within the fishing community. As the guardian of southeastern coastal Kenya, Shimoni KCGS Station continues to stand tall, facing challenges with resilience, forging partnerships, and achieving maritime milestones that resonate far beyond the horizon. In the symphony of the sea, Shimoni plays a crucial note, safeguarding lives, securing the waters, and fostering a maritime environment of excellence.

















Turkana KCGS Station Charting Waters, Fostering Peace

By Lt Gideon Kisang – OIC Lake Turkana KCGS Station

estled along the shores of Lake Turkana, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) Station in Turkana County stands as a vigilant guardian, ensuring the safety and security of these vast waters. Headed by the capable Lt Gideon K Kisang, the Turkana KCGS Station has emerged as a solution to maritime puzzles and a dedicated agent for the resolution of maritime resource disputes.

Lake Turkana in Focus

Encompassing an impressive area of 130,860KM SQ2, Lake Turkana is a breathtaking expanse fed by rivers Turkwel, Kerio, and Omo. Its maximum length reaches 290 kilometres (181 Nautical Miles), with a width of 32 kilometres (20 Nautical Miles). This stunning lake, surrounded by pastoralist communities and diverse economic activities, plays a pivotal role in the lives of Turkana's inhabitants.

Key Responsibilities

The Turkana KCGS Station shoulders the critical responsibility of enforcing maritime regulations and laws, ensuring the safe

utilization of Lake Turkana. Its jurisdiction spans from Omo Delta in the north to Loyangalani in the south, covering a vast and crucial maritime territory. The station's personnel engage in multifaceted roles, from enforcement and maritime protection to customs, immigration, fisheries, and sanitation measures.

Training and Capacity Building

A commitment to excellence is evident in the active participation of Turkana station personnel in various training opportunities. These endeavours enhance skills and knowledge, positioning the station at the forefront of international best practices. This commitment extends beyond borders, projecting a competitive posture regionally and globally.

Multi-Agency Collaboration

At the heart of its operations, Turkana KCGS Station champions a multi-agency approach, seamlessly integrating efforts with other government agencies and non-governmental organizations. This collaborative spirit has been instrumental in executing missions efficiently, achieving excellence, and fostering peace amongst diverse communities.

Milestones and Achievements

Turkana KCGS Station has achieved remarkable milestones, playing a pivotal role in compliance, enforcement, deterrence, physical security, platform maintenance, and community policing. Collaborative initiatives with IGAD and other organizations have contributed to the station's commendable efforts in fostering peace and tranquillity amongst the local Turkana and Dassanach communities from Ethiopia, who historically had disputes over maritime resources.

Challenges and Solutions

While challenges such as armed robbery, net theft, and smuggling persist, Turkana Station remains proactive, implementing site-specific measures. The station advocates for armoured patrol boats and additional personnel to combat armed robbery and quell con-

flicts amongst fishermen.

Reflecting on 2023

As we reflect on the achievements and unwavering commitment of Turkana KCGS Station in 2023, it is evident that the station is not only the custodian of maritime affairs but also a key

player in advancing economic interests in the Lake Turkana region. Through secure and efficient maritime operations, the station fosters everlasting peaceful coexistence between the local Turkana and neighbouring Dassanach communities from Ethiopia, charting a course for prosperity and harmony on the shores of Lake Turkana.





Soint EXERCISES

Cutiass Express (CE) 23 Enhancing Maritime Security Through Multinational Cooperation

Article by Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo – Maritime Operations Officer

n the dynamic expanse of East African coastal regions and the vast West Indian Ocean, a beacon of collective security emanates annually — Cutlass Express (CE). Led by U.S. Naval Forces Africa, this time Security and Deterrence all-encompassing, multinational maritime exercise stands as a testament orative effort; it was a resounding to the unwavering commitment to counteract malign influence, aggression, and illicit activities that threaten the shared maritime interests of nations in the region.

A Strategic Embrace of Region- as a powerful deterrent against al Cooperation

CE 2023 (CE 23) edition was not just an exercise; it was a strategic convergence of forces, ideologies, and practices aimed at bolstering operational capacity, maritime domain awareness, and information sharing among East African, Western Indian Ocean, and international partner forces. The exercise acts as a linchpin in effective regulation and deterrence against piracy, illegal fishing, and other transnational maritime threats.

The exercise unfolded in multiple stages, encompassing training and simulation sessions meticulously crafted to enhance the capabilities of maritime operations teams. This holistic approach ensures that partici-

pating nations are well-prepared to navigate the complexities of modern tius, saw KCGS actively engaged maritime security challenges.

An Overarching Mission: Mari-

CE 23 was more than just a collabstatement of intent. By overlapping with U.S. Central Command's International Maritime Exercise, it underscores the seamless integration of regional cooperation and meticulous preparation. This confluence serves any nefarious activities that seek to exploit the vulnerabilities of overlapping command seams.

Moreover, CE 23 aligned itself with the Regional Arrangements under the Maritime Security for Eastern and Southern Africa (MASE) Program. Through such cooperation and coordination, CE 23 actively contributed to the KCGS Strategic Focus Area on strengthening partnerships and collaborations.

KCGS: A Stalwart Participant

in CE Since 2021, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) has been an integral participant in Cutlass Express, exemplifying its unwavering commitment to regional maritime security. CE 23, hosted in Kenya,

Seychelles, Djibouti, and Mauriin a spectrum of training objectives, including compliant and non-compliant boarding, trafficking of radioactive materials, trafficking of persons, smuggling of contraband, drug trafficking, IUU (Illegal, Unregulated, Unreported) fishing, and Close Quarter Battle (CQB) training.

A total of 3 + 38 personnel from KCGS played a pivotal role in this annual exercise, contributing their expertise and commitment to the shared goal of a secure maritime domain. Looking ahead, KCGS is poised to continue its active participation in the upcoming CE 24 scheduled for February 2024. Cutlass Express stands as a beacon of hope, collaboration, and preparedness in the vast maritime expanse, affirming that together, nations can safeguard their shared maritime interests and confront the challenges that lie beyond the horizon. Through exercises like CE 23, the maritime community sends a resounding message — united, we stand for a secure and prosperous maritime future.

Kenya Coast Guard Service -Safeguarding Our Seas, Ensuring Our Future.





Canada Coast Guard (CCG) & Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) - KCGS Training Outlook 2023 Strengthening Capabilities and Partnerships

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo - Staff Officer Training

s we reflect on the strides made in 2023, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) takes pride in its commitment to continuous improvement and operational excellence. Throughout the year, we engaged in comprehensive training activities aimed at enhancing our workforce's capabilities and addressing the evolving transnational threats in the Western Indian Ocean Region.

Collaboration with Development Partners:

In our pursuit of maintaining operational readiness and an effective service posture, KCGS collaborated with various development partners. These partnerships focused on capacity building to equip our personnel with the skills needed to navigate complex maritime challenges.

Advancing Pose through Robust Maritime Law Enforcement Trainings:

Looking forward, KCGS is committed to advancing its posture through targeted training programs. This includes a focus on Maritime Law Enforcement, covering areas such as Maritime Interdiction Operations, maintenance, enforcement/compliance, fisheries protection, and addressing evolving regional threats like irregular migration.

Enhancing Search and Rescue (SAR) Capabilities:

In 2023, KCGS worked closely with the Canadian Coast Guard (CCG) to enhance our Search and Rescue (SAR) capabilities. This collaboration involved joint training activities, allowing us to develop shared competencies. We also partnered with the Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) to leverage training opportunities provided by CCG. Going forward, we aim to extend these training opportunities to other Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA) agencies and counties, ensuring skills and competencies are disseminated effectively.

Incident Command System (ICS) Training:

The CCG provided crucial training opportunities in Incident Command System (ICS) in 2023. ICS offers a standardized approach to command, control, and coordination during emergency responses. This training equips our personnel with the skills needed to effectively respond to incidents, fostering inter-agency collaboration.

Collaboration with Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA):

KCGS further strengthened its capabilities by partnering with Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA). This collaboration involved providing KCGS staff with essential skills and strategies for developing a training curriculum for a new recruit onboarding course. This initiative aligns with our 5-Year Strategic Plan, aimed at operationalizing a fully fledged and autonomous service.

Maritime Oil Spill Response Training:

Recognizing the critical role KCGS plays in addressing maritime pollution, CCG delivered training packages on Maritime Oil Spill Response in Kisumu and Mombasa. This training was complemented by a generous donation of Oil Spill Equipment, significantly boosting our capabilities and overall preparedness in Maritime Pollution (MarPol).

As we look to the future, these training initiatives form a crucial part of our efforts to enhance operational effectiveness, ensure the safety of our waters, and fulfill our mandate as outlined in the KCGS Act. The knowledge gained through these partnerships and training activities positions KCGS as a leading maritime security force in the region.

Together, we are dedicated to safeguarding our waters and ensuring a secure maritime environment for all.

The National Maritime Information **Sharing Center**

By Lt L Mwenda - Head of Joint Operation Center

he National Maritime Information Sharing Centre (NMISC) in Kilindini, Mombasa, serves as a critical hub for sharing information related to maritime security and safety in Kenya. The center plays a vital role in enhancing coordination, communication, and collaboration among various stakeholders involved in maritime activities. Here are some of the key roles and functions of the National Maritime Information Sharing Centre in Kilindini, Mombasa:

1. Information Sharing: The NMISC facilitates the sharing of relevant and timely information among government agencies, port authorities, shipping companies, and other stakeholders in the maritime sector. This information may include updates on maritime security threats, weather conditions, vessel movements, and other critical data.

2. Maritime Domain Aware-

ness: The center enhances maritime domain awareness by monitoring and analyzing activities in Kenyan waters, including vessel traffic, illegal fishing, piracy threats, and other maritime security concerns. This helps in identifying potential risks and taking proactive measures to address them.

3. Threat Assessment and Intelligence Analysis: The NMISC conducts threat assessments and intelligence analysis to identify potential security threats to the maritime domain. By analyzing information from various sources, the center can assess risks, track trends, and provide early warnings to relevant authorities.

4. Incident Response and Coordination: In the event of maritime incidents such as piracy attacks, oil spills, or accidents, the NMISC plays a key role in coordinating response efforts. The center helps in mobilizing resources, communicating with relevant agencies, and ensuring a swift and effective response to emergencies.

5. Capacity Building and

Training: The NMISC may also be involved in capacity building initiatives and training programs aimed at enhancing the skills and capabilities of maritime stakeholders in areas such as maritime security, safety procedures, and crisis management.

Overall, the National Maritime Information Sharing Centre in Kilindini, Mombasa, plays a crucial role in promoting maritime security, safety, and cooperation among stakeholders in the maritime sector. By fostering information sharing, enhancing awareness, and facilitating coordinated responses, the center contributes to the protection of Kenya's maritime interests and the safety of its waters.

The Concept of a Joint Operations Centre (JOC) was born in August 2016 .The Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act chapter five was

amended and a new section was inserted which established the Border Control and Operations Coordination Committee (BCOCC). One of the core functions of the said committee was to coordinate the exchange of information between the respective agencies responsible for the security and management of the sea, air and land borders at the designated entry and exit points. (Section5B(1) (b)Kenya Citizenship and Immigration Act). The Kilindini JOC which also serves as the National Maritime Information Sharing Centre (NMISC) serves as the country's point of contact with our regional partners in maritime security and safety. In June 2023 this centre signed an agreement through the Ministry of Interior and National Administration with United kingdom Maritime Trade Operations Centre (UKMTO). Kenya Coast Guard Service is also the country's national focal point and representative in the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCoC).

KCGS as well is the country's representative to the IORIS Steering Committee which oversees the utilization, management and improvement of the system.IORIS has been tested and proved to be a reliable tool for coordination and information exchange hence adopted by majority of the DCOC member states including Kenya. Kenya is a signatory member to the robust Maritime Security (MASE) programme whereby KCGS and the Kenya Navy represents the country. The programme focuses on the maritime security and safety for its member states.

From the above regional cooperation and engagements stipulated, you can all tell that some substantial amount of responsibility has

been bestowed upon the shoulders of KCGS as a premier service in maritime security and safety to act on behalf of our country.

JOC as a centre serves right as a point of contact with our partners and industry players within and beyond our borders. We can not underscore the importance or the relevance of this JOC both to the KCGS and to the country as a whole.









Kenya Coast Guard Operations Centre (XOC)By Mr Kipkemoi Ketienya – Deputy Head of XOC



he Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) Operations Centre (XOC) stands as a testament to our commitment to excellence and innovation in safeguarding Kenya's territorial waters. Located at the heart of KCGS offices in the Port of Mombasa (Kilindini), the XOC represents a significant milestone in our journey towards enhancing maritime security and operational efficiency.

The inception of the XOC dates back to June 2023, when the visionary idea was conceived. Since then, dedicated efforts have been made to turn this vision into reality. After months of meticulous planning and rigorous preparations, the XOC officially commenced its operations on 7th February 2024, achieving Initial Operating Capability.

The establishment of the XOC was driven by the imperative need for a centralized command and control center, as well as a hub for information sharing and coordination. Thanks to the unwave

"The XOC embodies our unwavering commitment to leveraging technology and collaboration to ensure the safety, security, and prosperity of Kenya's maritime domain. We look forward to the continued success and impact of the XOC in the years to come."

ring leadership and support from our partners, particularly the EU Go Blue Project, the XOC has emerged as the nerve center of KCGS operations, streamlining

processes and enhancing our response capabilities to maritime incidents.

Staffed by a team of highly trained, disciplined, and professional personnel, the XOC operates around the clock to ensure the safety and security of our maritime domain. Equipped with state-of-the-art computers and high-speed internet connectivity, the XOC harnesses the power of cutting-edge technology to monitor vessel movements in real-time using platforms such as IORIS. Seavision, and Skylight.

One of the crowning achievements of the XOC is its role as the home to the groundbreaking maritime application, USALAMA BAHARINI KENYA. Developed in collaboration with the EU Go Blue Project, this smartphone application revolutionizes the reporting

of maritime incidents, making it as simple as the touch of a button. app has already proven instrumental in saving lives and apprehending offenders engaged in illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU)

fishing activities.

With over 250 registered users, the As we chart the course towards excellence, the XOC remains steadfast in its mission to achieve Full Operating Capability by the end of June 2024. Moving forward, the XOC will serve as the engine driving all KCGS operations, cementing its position as the premier operations hub in Kenya and the wider region.

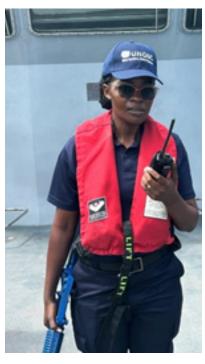














UNODC/KCGS Collaboration - INL Funded Projects

Article by Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo – Maritime Operations Officer KCGS

nce 2019, through its various donors, UNODC has supported the Kenya Coast Guard Service with capacity building activities in support of KCGS core mandate. Among these activities are maritime law enforcement trainings, support to policy development, equipment donations to assist effective 2. Small Boat Coxswain operations, and on overall sincere and steadfast cooperation towards a common goal. Maritime Law Enforcement Trainings

The Maritime Law Enforcement trainings are one of the mechanisms used by UNODC GMCP to address its mandate. MLE operations form part of Maritime Interdiction Operations (MIO), a term used to refer the activities carried out by authorized law enforcement agencies to prevent or deter the advancement of maritime threats to national security. The vast MLE trainings have been offered to KCGS officers through national and international trainings hosted in countries such as Seychelles, Madagascar, Mauritius and at UNODC's Headquarters in Vienna, Austria. The trainings are delivered by MLE experts from various countries, including Kenya. Some of these trainings and the contents is provided in the description below:

1. Basic Seamanship Training Course: designed to provide Maritime Law Enforcement (MLE) officers with the skills, techniques, and procedures to effectively conduct enforcement operations while on-board a patrol vessel. During the course, selected MLE officers undergo Basic Coxswain training to acquire the steering skills necessary to effectively pilot a patrol

boat in an emergency. This course also covers fundamentals of international maritime law; weather, meteorology, and forecasting; rope work and line handling; communications; engine troubleshooting and emergency procedures; survival at sea; search and rescue; and firefighting.

Course: designed to provide MLE officers with advanced maritime skills, techniques and procedures needed to effectively support enforcement operations employing a patrol vessel. During the course, students undergo coxswain training to acquire the navigation and steering skills to effectively pilot a patrol boat. This course also covers fundamentals of international maritime law; navigation; weather, meteorology, and forecasting; ropework and line communications procedures; engine: troubleshooting, emergency procedures; survival at sea; search & rescue; and firefighting.

3. VBSS Course for Boarding Teams: designed to provide all participants with a comprehensive understanding of Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) operations. The training ensures that MLE personnel have the required knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully carry out duties in their assigned areas of jurisdiction. Maritime safety and security skills learned in this course can be utilized to mitigate a variety of conventional and unconventional threats that could arise while conducting compliant or non-compliant boarding operations at sea. The end goal of the VBSS course is to allow participants to successfully execute safe and legally sound operations that follow national and international maritime laws.

4) VBSS Officers Course (Plan-

ning and Direction of Vessel Boarding Operation): designed to provide MLE officers in charge of managing Visit, Board, Search and Seizure (VBSS) operations with a comprehensive understanding of the legal and operational considerations necessary to effectively carry out their mission. Planning and supervision skills learned in this course can be utilized to mitigate a variety of conventional and unconventional threats that could arise while conducting compliant and non-compliant boarding operations at sea. The end goal of this VBSS course is to allow MLE officers to draw guidance from a variety of reference documents and scenarios to support the successful implementation of safe and legally sound operations that follow national and international maritime laws.

Strategic Vision and Management

UNODC supports KCGS strategic vision and operations through various policy development sessions and project management training to guide implementation at the programme level. To do this, project management experts are brought for consultation meetings with top level officers within the KCGS. The outcome of these meetings is then documented for further discussions until full scale execution.

Equipment Donation

UNODC has donated through INL several equipment to support successful operations within KCGS. Some of these donations include engine parts, boarding ladders, and tactical equipment.

Unlocking Excellence Through Mentorship KCGS's Vision For Local Instructor Development

By the Editorial Team & Rgr Muhsin Ismat – KCGS Instructor

n the pursuit of autonomy and sustainability, the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) has embarked on an innovative journey to mold a cadre of local instructors through an impactful mentorship program. At the helm of this strategic move are KCGS's partnerships with our esteemed development partners INL through the implementing agency United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Canadian Coast Guard (CCG)/Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), and EU funded projects through GoBlue project. As KCGS strides confidently towards full autonomy, the need to cultivate a robust pool of local instructors becomes paramount. The Mentorship of Instructors program is designed to harness the wealth of experience from our

distinguished partners, allowing our local talents to observe, learn, and emulate the best practices of international trainers. This not only ensures the seamless transition of skills but also facilitates the creation of a self-sufficient training ecosystem within KCGS.

One of the cornerstones of this mentorship initiative is the Trainer of Trainer (ToT) programs, where our national instructors-to-be are paired with seasoned professionals from UNODC, CCG/CBSA, and GoBlue. This collaborative learning approach ensures that the local instructors absorb knowledge organically, adapting global standards to the unique needs of our maritime environment.

Rgr Muhsin Ismat and Mr. Kipkemoi Ketienya, identified as promising talents within KCGS, exemplify this commitment to excellence. Their participation in UNODC implemented programs underscores the dedication to enhancing their instructional skills. As Rgr Muhsin Ismat aptly puts it, "As one of the members of KCGS, I was selected as a national instructor to shadow one of our mentors, acquire full instructional skills, and pass it on to other members once KCGS undertakes such trainings on its own." The KCGS approach to mentorship goes beyond skill transfer; it fosters a sense of ownership and pride within the local cadre. This not only promotes sustainability but also stands out as a cost-effective method, leveraging existing expertise rather than relying solely on external trainers.



Furthermore, exposure on international fora is an integral part of this mentorship program. Our instructors are not confined to local perspectives but gain insights into global best practices, ensuring that KCGS remains at the forefront of maritime security and safety. In the spirit of cultivating homegrown talent, the Mentorship of Instructors program is a testament to KCGS's commitment to shaping its destiny, one skilled instructor at a time. As the service sails towards a future of autonomy and self-sufficiency, it is the dedication to mentorship that will navigate us through the waters of excellence.







KCGS Remarkable Achievements In Safety Training For Fishers & Community Watch Programs

By Sub Lt Susan Mtakai Head of SAR

Preamble

he Kenya Coast Guard has made significant strides in ensuring the safety and well-being of fishers through its comprehensive safety training programs and community watch initiatives. Since 2023, the Coast Guard has successfully trained 2112 fishers, equipping them with life jackets and waterproof phone bags for enhanced safety at sea. This article aims to highlight the commendable achievements of the Kenya Coast Guard in promoting the safety of fishers and fostering a strong community watch program.

Safety Training for Fishers

The Kenya Coast Guard's commitment to safety training has played a pivotal role in reducing accidents and fatalities among fishers. Through rigorous training sessions, fishers are educated on various safety measures, including proper handling of equipment, weather-focused navigation techniques, emergency response protocols, and first aid skills. These training sessions empower fishers with the knowledge and skills required to navigate the unpredictable waters with confidence and caution.

Distribution of Life Jackets and Waterproof Phone Bags Recognizing the importance of personal safety equipment, the Kenya Coast Guard has distributed 2192 life jackets and waterproof phone bags to fishers in collaboration with the Go Blue project. Life jackets are crucial in preventing drowning incidents by providing buoyancy and ensuring fishers stay afloat in case of emergencies. Additionally, waterproof phone bags protect communication devices, enabling fishers to seek assistance or call for help during distress situations. This initiative has significantly enhanced the safety and security of fishers, providing them with essential tools to mitigate risks while at sea. Community Watch Program The Kenya Coast Guard's community watch program has been instrumental in fostering a sense of collective responsibility and vigilance among fishers and coastal communities. This program encourages fishers to actively participate in monitoring and reporting any suspicious activities or potential threats in their vicinity. By establishing strong communication channels between the Coast Guard and local communities, the program has facilitated prompt responses to emergencies and improved overall security along the coast.

The community watch program implemented by the Kenya Coast Guard aims to improve security along the coast through a

multi-faceted approach. Here are some ways in which the program works towards enhancing security:

a. Enhanced Surveil-

lance: The program encourages fishers and coastal communities to act as the "eyes and ears" of the Coast Guard, observing and reporting any suspicious activities to the authorities.

b. Timely Reporting and

Response: Effective communication channels enable prompt reporting of incidents, allowing the Coast Guard to respond quickly and effectively.

c. Collaboration and Co-

ordination: Regular meetings and training sessions build strong relationships and foster a sense of shared responsibility among stakeholders.

d. Awareness and Ed-

ucation: Training sessions raise awareness about security threats and empower communities to identify risks and adopt preventive measures.

e. Deterrence and En-

forcement: Increased vigilance and reporting deter illegal activities, enabling swift enforcement actions by the Coast Guard.

Conclusion

The Kenya Coast Guard's dedication to safety training for

fishers and the implementation of a robust community watch program have yielded remarkable achievements since 2023. With the training of 1872 fishers, distribution of life jackets, and provision of waterproof phone bags, the Coast

Guard has taken significant steps towards safeguarding lives and livelihoods. These initiatives promote a culture of safety and foster stronger bonds between the Coast Guard, fishers, and coastal communities. The ongoing efforts of the Kenya Coast Guard ex-

emplify proactive measures to ensure the well-being of those who depend on the sea for their livelihoods.













SPECIAL SEGMENT feature

My Life As A Watchkeeper The Information Environment Of Maritime Domain Awareness

By Cpl Kulu Diba - Watchkeeper JOC

In the realm of maritime surveillance, where the waves whisper secrets and the winds carry untold stories, I find myself as a watchkeeper, the silent guardian of our territorial waters and beyond. Welcome to a day in my life, where every shift unfolds a new chapter of maritime intrigue.

The Daily Dance of Shifts:

Our world revolves in shifts, daily shifts to be precise. It's a routine, a rhythm we dance to, a tango with the waves that demands our unwavering attention. Bathroom breaks become moments of respite, a fleeting escape from the ever-watchful eyes.

Eyes Glued to Screens:

In my sanctum at the Joint Operation Centre (JOC), I command three screens and one giant screen. They are not just displays; they are portals to the vastness of data. Indo Pacific Regional Information Sharing (IORIS), SeaVision, Vessel Finder, Skylight and many others – each a symphony of information. I am not just an observer; I am an analyst, and I revel in the

dance of data.

The Art of Analysis:

To the uninitiated, my role might seem like watching dots move on a screen. But it's an art, a craft that demands guts and knowledge. I ask myself a series of questions: What is the vessel doing? Why is she there? What's her next move? And most importantly, what is she not telling me? It's about deciphering the language of the sea, understanding the nuances hidden beneath the surface.

Patterns and Anomalies:

My day is a tapestry of patterns – distinguishing the normal from the abnormal. It's not just about data; it's about interpreting it. Training and experience are my guides in navigating the labyrinth of datasets. Every blip on the screen tells a story, and I'm here to unravel it. I play the detective, searching for clues, flagging suspicious activities, and peering into the shadows for potential dark deeds.

The Platform Jigsaw:

In my arsenal, I wield multiple plat-

forms – each a different lens into the maritime world. Indo Pacific Regional Information Sharing (IORIS), SeaVision, Vessel Finder – they're not competitors; they're companions, each offering a unique perspective. At the JOC, it's not about the best platform; it's about the operator, the conductor orchestrating a symphony of information.

Team, the Centre of Gravity:

Yet, amidst the screens and datasets, the real power lies in the team. Individual proficiency is vital, but the collective expertise is where the magic happens. We share insights, cross-check findings, and together, we create a fortress of maritime security.

A Silent Contribution:

As my shift comes to an end, I reflect on my day's work. Proud doesn't begin to describe the feeling. I contribute to my country's maritime security, operating on the fringes, where we are neither seen nor heard. In the quiet realm of the watchkeeper, I find my purpose – a guardian of the seas and a protector of the unknown.



Kenya Coast Guard Service Protecting The Nation's Territorial Waters

By Lt Cdr J A Mochanga - Commanding Officer KCGS Doria

enya is a country blessed with abundant natural resources, including a long coastline that stretches for about 536 Kilometers along the Indian Ocean. The country also has several inland water bodies, such as Lake Victoria. Lake Turkana. and the Tana River. In this vast expanse of the territorial waters and inland waters, where waves crash against the East African coastline and shores of the lakes, the Kenya Coast Guard Service stands as a pillar of maritime security. These waters are vital for the livelihoods of millions of Kenyans, who depend on them for fishing, tourism, trade, and transportation. However, these waters also face many threats, such as illegal fishing, piracy, human and drug trafficking, smuggling, and environmental degradation. To safeguard the nation's maritime interests and security, Kenya established the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) in 2018.

The KCGS is a specialized maritime force of the Republic of Kenya, responsible for law enforcement on national waters, including on the oceans, lakes and rivers. The Service is mandated to maintain maritime safety, security, pollution control and sanitation. It is also responsible for apprehending and prosecuting offenders.

The KCGS consists of professional security personnel drawn from the Kenya Defence Forces, the National Police Service, the National Intelligence Service and civilian professionals. The KCGS is supervised by the Coast Guard Service Council, chaired by the Cabinet Secretary for Internal Security and National Administration. Other council members include the Cabinet Secretaries for Defence, Environment and Forestry, Transport, Finance, Blue Economy, Chief of Defence Forces, Attorney-General, Inspector General of National Police service, DG National Intelligence Service and DG KCGS who is the secretary of the council.

The KCGS was officially launched by the President on 19 November 2018 at Liwatoni in Mombasa. The president also commissioned the first coast guard vessel, KCGS DORIA, named after a Swahili word (DORIA) which refers to patrolling. The KCGS temporary headquarters are located in the Liwatoni neighbourhood, in the port city of Mombasa. The agency has representation in all major sea ports in the country, including Kilindini, Kilifi, Malindi, Ngomeni, Shimoni and Lamu. It is also present on Lake Turkana, Naivasha, Baringo, and in the lake port city of Kisumu, on the shores of Lake Victoria amongst

other major Lakes and inland waters.

Since its inception, the KCGS has been actively involved in various operations to protect Kenya's waters from illegal activities. Some of the notable achievements of the KCGS include:

- Seizing of illegal fish worth millions from foreign vessels operating in Kenyan waters.
- Arresting suspects involved in various crimes such as smuggling of contraband goods, drugs and firearms.
- Rescuing fishermen who were stranded or attacked by pirates in the Indian Ocean.
- Conducting joint patrols and exercises with other regional and international partners such as USA, Tanzania, Somalia, Seychelles, Djibouti, France and Japan.
- Enhancing maritime awareness and education among coastal communities through outreach programs and training.
- The KCGS is also committed to improving its capacity and capability to effectively carry out its mandate. The service has plans to acquire more vessels, equipment and personnel to boost its operations. The service is also launched its maiden strategic

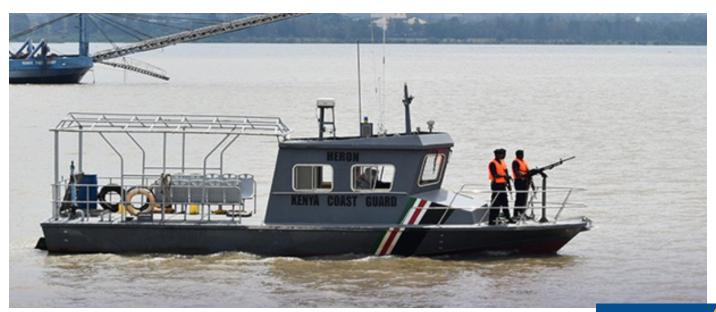
plan in April 2023 at Mombasa. The strategic plan outlines the vision, mission, goals and objectives of the KCGS for the next five years.

The KCGS is a vital institution for Kenya's maritime security and development. By protecting the nation's waters from illegal activities and threats, the KCGS ensures that Kenyans can enjoy the benefits of their blue economy. KCGS also contributes to regional and global peace and stability by cooperating with other countries and organizations in combating maritime crimes and challenges.

This article was published in the First Edition of Baharini Magazine Issue 001







Usalama Baharini App A KCGS Coastal Watch Application

By Lt Cdr Kevin Kimondo – Maritime Operations Officer KCGS

id you know that the Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) investigates more than 900 Search and Rescue (SAR) cases annually? 62% of these cases are recorded within the coastal zone alone while the rest are spread within the Inland Waters. Most of these cases broadly manifest as drownings (Suicide/Accidental), missing, capsizes, ditching at sea, Machinery failure or Vessel Overdue reports with small fishing boats greatly affected. Sadly enough, most of these cases degenerate into Salvage/Recovery Operations occasioned by delays in receipt of Distress alerts."

Kenya Maritime Authority (KMA) as set up in 2004 is charged with the regulatory oversight over the Kenyan maritime industry with Maritime safety and security being one of its core functions. The Agency coordinates maritime SAR utilizing a multi-Agency architecture comprised of various stakeholders. Consequently, the KCGS is mandated under the KCGS Act Section 8 to perform other roles among them - being deployed within the Territorial Waters for SAR. It is within this line that the KCGS is enabled to co-operate with and assist other public authorities during emergencies or disasters in the territorial waters. KCGS has and continues to develop its workforce aimed at maintaining Operational Readiness and a Service Posture that addresses the transnational threats

afflicting the Western Indian Ocean Region. Moving forward, the Service intends to advance its pose through robust Maritime Law Enforcement Trainings in Maritime Interdiction Operations, maintenance, enforcement/compliance, fisheries protection nation and information-sharing and evolving regional threats such as Irregular migration. However, most importantly, the Service intends to enhance the provision of maritime SAR services and safety of small vessels.

Most of the Small Vessels (less than 10Meters) in Kenya are non-motorised boats utilising low-craft technology mostly paddle-powered craft. Such vessels are thus categorized as Non-SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea) Vessels without Safety Equipment (Global Maritime Distress and Safety System (GMDSS) equipment is not obligatory for non-SOLAS vessels) that would initiate distress that would be received by Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in order to initiate an Effective SAR Coordination. This predisposes vessels in distress and crew to lurking danger since authorities are virtually unaware of those vessels in distress in the first place.

In order to address these gaps whilst promoting safety at Sea; KCGS in a joint collaboration with EU CRIMA-RIO and EU funded project through Go Blue partners developed a first of a kind innovative IT application dubbed USALAMA BAHARINI APP available on Playstore. A smartphone Application linked to the Indo Pacific Regional Information Sharing (IORIS) platform, to enable National Coastal

Communities to share (receive and send) information directly with the Joint Operation Centre based in Mombasa. The IORIS platform is a secure and neutral, web-based, maritime coorditool for national and regional multi-agency use.

The strategic end state is to promote a safety culture by raising awareness which informs a kev pillar of effective SAR - SAR prevention. The Community Watch Program (CWP) which is a pioneering joint initiative developed by KCGS and Go Blue seeks to strengthen the relationship and collaboration between Kenyan maritime law enforcement agencies and fisher communities. This program entails two core activities: training KCGS trainers to deliver Safety Training for Fishers (STF) aimed at among other functions building resilience amongst Fishing Communities and developing the Light Coastal App (USALA-MA BAHARINI) - an innovative communication tool between smartphones and IORIS to facilitate contact between maritime law enforcement agencies and coastal communities. It offers end users (Beach Management Units (BMU), Yachting Association members, Disaster Response Teams, etc.) the possibility to easily report any suspicious activity at sea to maritime law enforcement agencies. End-users will also be able to

receive real-time alert messages (weather, security concerns) from national agencies.

While analysing hazards and the risk factors causing SAR incidents, it is inevitable to promote a safety culture amongst communities heavily dependent on the Blue Economy. Towards that front, it was prudent to develop a relationship/partnership with the strong network of BMU's along the coastline through provision of type approved SOLAS Life Jackets, watertight phone bags and blackboards aimed at promoting Safety at sea backed up with STF training.

Usalama Baharini

Usalama Baharini as a smartphone application has undergone application testing meeting functionality, quality and usability thresholds and is currently awaiting official launch. The App not only guarantees an effective SAR but also integrates other KCGS core functions such as Maritime Safety/Security, Pollution and sanitation measures as well as Prevention of Maritime Crime just to name a few - a whole inclusive App.

The App supports the national effort on Blue Economy, by securing the Kenyan waters. KCGS is guaranteed seamless contact with stakeholders such as BMU's whose fishers are at sea on a daily basis and will be able to report any information through the Anonymous feature covering illegal activities such as IUU or SAR events and marine pollution. In return and through the same channel, KCGS will be able to share useful information with the coastal community such as weather advisories. The App being a first of a kind will undoubtedly, be a game changer and offers viable solutions at a very sustainable cost.

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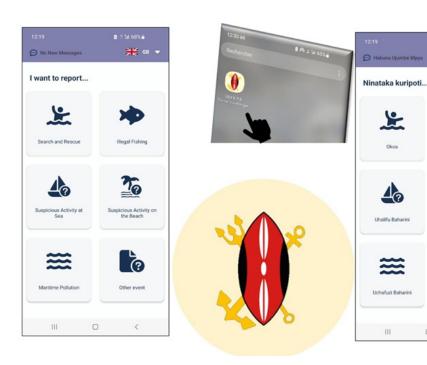


Figure 1: App Logo & **Interface Icons**



Figure 2: Anonymous Reporting feature

Guardians Of Hope

Kenya Coast Guard's Valiant Stand Against Tana River Floods Under "Operation Dhibiti Mafuriko" By Lt Rogers Lusasi – Executive Officer KCGS Doria

he power of nature often reminds us of its inherent unpredictability. In the wake of Tana River floods, Tana River County witnessed a harrowing example of this force. It was a moment that underscored the vulnerability of communities residing along the riverbanks and floodplains, highlighting the need for swift and effective response mechanisms to mitigate the impact of such natural calamities. As River Tana swelled beyond its banks, threatening lives and livelihoods, Kenya Coast Guard emerged as a beacon of hope.

Tana River is a vital water resource for agricultural activities in its basin. It supports irrigation projects that contribute to food production in the region. The river is also a source of hydroelectric power, with several dams and power stations along its course. The fertile soils along the river make it suitable for agriculture, supporting crops such as rice, maize, and vegetables. Communities along the river often rely on agriculture and fishing for their livelihoods. In spite of the aforesaid, Tana River Basin faces challenges such as water scarcity, competition for water resources, and environmental degradation. Periodic flooding along Tana River is a natural occurrence, influenced by seasonal rains. To understand the magnitude of Tana River floods, it's essential to grasp the circumstances leading up to this natural disaster. Abnormal rainfall patterns, changing weather conditions, and the geographical vulnerability of the Tana River basin set the stage for a calamity that would test the resilience of both the affected communities and the emergency response units. This severe flooding normally causes loss of lives, displacement of people, damage to

infrastructure, and destruction of crops and livestock.

In December 2023, Tana River County experienced one of the worst floods in its history, as the El Nino rains caused massive water spillage from dams and other smaller rivers upstream that feed into Tana River. The river burst its banks downstream and submerged hundreds of villages, farms, and roads in Tana Delta region and the neighbouring Lamu County. Many people were trapped in their villages, facing the risk of drowning, hunger and waterborne diseases as a result of their inaccessibility to essential services and supplies. These remote communities found themselves isolated and at the mercy of the merciless floodwaters.

With local emergency services overwhelmed and struggling to cope with the scale of the disaster, distressed communities along the Tana River reached out for assistance. The urgency of the situation required a specialized and rapid response, leading to the deployment of the Kenya Coast Guard (KCGS) Search and Rescue team (SAR), an unsung force ready to face the challenges posed by nature.

After activation and deployment, the KCGS SAR team identified locations that were marooned through acquiring information from local leadership and ground reconnaissance. The Kenya Coast Guard's prompt response to Tana River floods showcased their preparedness and commitment to protecting lives. Equipped with rescue boats, vehicles, specialized equipment and tools and well trained personnel, the Coast Guard initiated and coordinated a large-scale rescue operation. Their mission being; to reach the unreachable, to save the stranded,

and to defy the odds imposed by nature.

The team immediately started working closely with other government agencies and stakeholders to coordinate and execute disaster response and rescue operations. These key partners included, National **Disaster Operations Centre** (NDOC), the Kenya Red Cross Society (KRCS), Kenya Navy (KN), National Police Service (NPS), Tana River County Government, and the local leadership.

The heart of the rescue operation lay in the Kenya Coast Guard's ability to traverse the waters in marooned villages by executing a comprehensive response to Tana Delta flood crisis. Their multifaceted approach did not only address search and rescue, but also relief, support and resilience efforts emphasizing their dedication to community well-being. Evacuating individuals from danger zones was among the many activities conducted and coordinated by the team. In an early engagement, the SAR team successfully evacuated police officers and seized firearms from marooned GSU camp in Wema and Sailoni police posts. Additionally, they coordinated retrieving of ammunition, smoke bombs, Federal Riot Guns (FRGs) and personal belongings from the same camps. A crucial rescue mission for a missing boat, carrying area Members of Parliament (MPs) and local leaders on an essential supplies distribution, was also undertaken in a night operation by the team in collaboration with the Kenya Red

Cross, locating the distressed boat and successfully rescuing all onboard near Mlima Abo in Tana Delta.

During subsequent operations, the team conducted more evacuation missions, addressing disruptions in transportation due to extensive flooding on the Garsen-Witu-Lamu road which had

severely hampered movement across the area. One of the most noticeable activities during control and monitoring by KCGS SAR team was guiding stranded students and staff from Pate Girls across inundated road by ensuring their safety.

Despite challenging floodwaters, the team delivered vital supplies to isolated villages of Wema and Maziwa, as well as evacuating individuals trapped in the areas Kulesa and Hewani. KCGS SAR also coordinated and controlled traffic of people, vehicles and boats as they monitored receding waters, enforcing measures on safety of navigation. Moreover, mapping exercises were conducted in Chara location identifying affected villages and locating possible boat deployment areas. The KCGS SAR team assisted in distributing government relief food in designated distribution points of Hashaka and Golbanti through local leaders by dropping them off at Chamwanamuma, Buraanani, Onwordey and Haraku villages. KCGS SAR commitment beyond rescue missions was also evident through activities such as, numerous medical evacuations conducted by the team across the submerged area



measures. Furthermore, some aggrieved families were aided in ferrying their deceased as the team comforted them for their losses. As part of relief and support efforts by KCGS to the community, the team donated approved SOLAS lifejackets to the office of Tana

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River Women Representative to be used by canoes between the villages of Hamesa and Bandi. In addition to that, water was donated to the severely affected relocation camps including Danisa 1 and 2 in their journey to reclaiming normalcy. In the subsequent period, operations focused on drawing down and backloading stores as it remained vigilant during ongoing road repairs. Throughout the entire response, the KCGS team showcased dedication, coordination, and efficiency in addressing the heterogeneous challenges posed by the flood crisis in the Tana Delta region.

The success of the Kenya Coast Guard's rescue mission can be attributed not only to their individual prowess but also to their seamless coordination and collaboration with other agencies and local authorities. Thus, this ensured a synchronized and efficient response, maximizing their impact and minimizing response times.

The rescue mission was not without its challenges. The vast and unfamiliar floodplain of the River Tana, exacerbated by cut-off roads, harbored wildlife threats, such as crocodiles, snakes, and hippos, posed risks to the rescue teams as well as the people trapped in the floodplains. Moreover, search

and rescue team faced hurdles due to scanty local knowledge, hindering effective navigation, communication, and coordination with local authorities. Yet, their unwavering determination, adaptability, and professionalism prevailed, resulting in the

successful evacuation of several people and mitigation of a potential humanitarian disaster. As the floodwaters receded and communities started to rebuild, the voices of the rescued echoed their gratitude. Testimonials from those whose lives were touched by KCGS SAR painted a vivid picture of hope and resilience.

The county leadership, too, acknowledged Kenya Coast Guard's SAR team dedication to preserving life and property in the wake of Tana Delta flooding. In conclusion, Tana River floods stand as a testament to Kenya Coast Guard Services unfaltering commitment to serving and protecting lives in times of disasters. In the face of nature's fury, they emerged as guardians of hope, demonstrating the crucial role that a well-trained and equipped coastal and inland waters defence force plays in disaster management. As the affected communities rebuild and recover, the KCGS SAR team remains etched in the collective memory as the unsung heroes of the Tana River floods hence a beacon of courage, compassion, and commitment in the darkest hours.



Mitigating Climate Change Through Maritime Security Leveraging

By Bruno I Shioso EBS, OGW Director General KCGS

he reality of climate change, and attendant threats posed to humanity may not be overstated. Evidence of the scourge of climate change manifest anywhere one looks, or from abounding impacts felt by all. Evidently, no sector seems left unscathed, making climate change a hot topic crying out for apt interventions on the global market. On 4th - 6th September 2023, Kenya hosted the Africa Climate Summit at KICC. Nairobi. This summit, championed by H.E President William S. Ruto was aimed to serve as a platform to "inform, frame, and influence commitments, pledges, and outcomes, ultimately leading to the development of the Nairobi Declaration. " That the summit, being a resounding success is not in doubt.

Indeed, given that Africa, and the rest interventions, if not just to level of the World converged to deliberate on this important topic that is posing an existential threat to humanity is in itself telling. Africa, in one unequivocal voice, and as never before, spoke directly to the Global North as the abusers, and herself as the victim bearing the brunt of the impact of climate action's irresponsibility. Accountability over either actions or inactions was therefore called for from those with the most culpability. Reparations to mitigate and right the problem were equally tabled. Most discussions to inform on climate the blue economy is described change phenomenon are framed around the known environments of land and air spaces. Little, or nothing on such agendas framed focuses on the maritime sector. Yet this grey or dark 'unknown' domain is what is most abused and in need of more

up with the attention the land and air ecosystems enjoy. The maritime domain represents that vast water 'nothingness' formed by oceans, seas, and inland waters enveloping the land mass. It's the largest pie of the world, accounting for roughly 71% against the land mass at 29%. In terms of global trade, over 80% is done on water as compared to the rest conducted on both land and air. And with respect to economic potentiality, by the OECD as the "next great economic frontier as it holds potential for wealth and economic growth, employment and innovation." This is therefore the future, and as such, demands equal attention for fuller optimization.



Unfortunately, our waters (oceans, seas, lakes and rivers), unknown and 'faceless' as they are, are all threatened by unscrupulous or unsustainable extractive activities. It's a frontier very little is known, hence remains a vast ungoverned "no-man's-land" where any form of criminality goes! It's - especially the deep seas - that cesspool where dumping of hazardous material happens. The place where unsustainable fishing by commercial trawlers by rich nations and crooked sea poachers prey - leaving coral destruction and depletion of endangered species in their trail. It is where nuclear testing routinely happens. Where oil spills by merchant ships and oil exploration takes place. And prospecting and mining of minerals goes on unabated. This, in a nutshell, is an outlaw arena, with the destruction of the maritime ecosystem, yet holds the key to the future of humanity! Therefore, with such an outlaw tag to our global waters, maritime security becomes the only imperative as a solution. This should be achieved through a concerted global maritime law enforcement strategy of collaborative partnerships and synergies of coalitions of willing nations, regional arrangements of sister States, and interagency state fusions of maritime sector agencies. No silo maritime law enforcement approach may suffice as an effective

Players in the maritime security provision are varied and differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction. These constituent stakeholders, ranging from national coast guards, navies, sector players within the fisheries, transport,

intervention.

maritime regulators, environmental conservation, port authorities, marine scientists, revenue collectors, amongst others all play a pivotal role, and must be joined together at their hips to provide a wholesome maritime security posture. Towards this end of maritime law enforcement, coast guards are therefore well placed to play a coordinating lead role.

Kenya joined the global proactive maritime law enforcement wayback in 2018 through establishment of the Kenya Coast Guard Service, The Service, though relatively youthful, is primed to be a "premier" maritime law enforcement service provider, and with the onerous mandate of providing the security and safety over our national territorial waters. This <mark>is general</mark>ly achieved throug<mark>h</mark> enforcement of all maritime laws. protection of maritime resources, aiding in sustainable utility of our maritime resources, providing safe passage of sea vessels within territorial waters, tackling insidious maritime transnational threats such as gun running, trafficking in persons and narcotics etc. With this mandate background in mind, KCGS is perhaps the best example on how state agencies can cooperate meaningfully through commingling of resources and collapsing of mandates, and hence approach critical national security sector threats as a unified vehicle. Such apparent disparate comparative advantages pooled into a holistic purpose is what makes KCGS unique in posture, and a promising premier state security agency of now and the future. KCGS looks outwardly too, and works with other stakeholders to protect our maritime resources

jealously. We achieve this by empowering the fisher communities living proximate to waters with critical knowledge on sustainable methods of fishing, including self policing on right gears to use, and above all, their safety considerations while at sea or lake. As a key pillar of our mandate, we also have structured relations with international development partners, through whom we access premium training options on current norms and trends on maritime law enforcement and safety, share benchmarks, and further perform joint exercises for improved skills. Such in-kind support from strategic partners cannot be gainsaid, and remain part of our strength in serving and protecting.

As we continue to discharge our mandate wholeheartedly, and also enable the national blue economy aspiration to take off, as a coast guard, together with our cherished partners, we stand committed to make an invaluable contribution towards a mitigated climate change for a better world for all. A concerted maritime security action plus similar corrective interventions can save the world from the scourge of climate change. So far, KCGS has in partnership with fisher communities planted 20,000 mangrove trees (with a projection to hit a target of 1 million within the next 5 years), and also is routinely engaged in beach cleanup exercises.

Together, if we can fix the waters and their ecosystem, then we can reverse the perils of climate change hence save current and future generations.

As published in The Star Newspaper

SHAIRI 1

WITO LINDA TUFAULU, KAULI MBIU COASTGUARD

Kwa jina lake Muumba, Mungu wa viumbe vyote Ulinzi hautoyumba, usalama uko kote Macho hawajayafumba, wako macho siku zote Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Coastguard ni Shirika, hulinda maji asili Kote kote wameshika, maziwa,mito, bahari Usafi meimarika, *pamoja*na ulinzi mkali Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Nauvaa uzalendo, kwenye haki kusimama Nilo nao ni upendo, kwa walinda usalama Coastguard iko chonjo, mito bahari mesimama Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Usafi wa mazingira, maji asili ya Kenya Kote wametia fora, Uchafu wamekusanya Wamewazima wakora, wengine wakawaonya Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Wale wavuvi haramu, kote wamewakomesha Hivi Sasa kwa awamu, samaki hujizalisha Hakuna wa kudhulumu, uvuvi umeboreshwa Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Sasa tuna ufahari, Kenya tunajivunia Kenya hakuna habari, tena ya uharamia Wamethibiti bahari, na leo twajionea Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Wameyazima magendo, yasafirishwayo majini Hawana za kando kando, sheria wako makini Kwao ni haramu hongo, pongezi tuwasifuni Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Tungo yangu ninafunga, Coastguard nikisifu Mkono tunawaunga, msirudi nyuma katu Fukwe ndani mezikinga, bidii ya mchwa siafu Wito LINDA TUFAULU, kauli mbiu Coastguard

Malenga: Cpl Abdi Bakari Omari Jina la majazi: Overdoz Classic (Malenga Mlenga Ndipo)

SHAIRI 2

KIKOSI CHA COASTGUARD, NDIO FAHARI YA KENYA

Kwa jina la Baba Mungu, tungo yangu naianza Kueleza fahari zetu, Kenya inavyopendeza Hutambua ulimwengu, Coastguard yaangaza Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Coastguard muungano, wa Mashirika mbalimbali

Mashirika yenye maono, kuboresha serikali Wanaeneza masono, kulinda, mito, ziwa na bahari

Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Wana viongozi bora, wa vitengo mbalimbali Ujuzini metia fora, matokeo chanya kwao mali Ushirikiano kwao sera, maarifa nazo akili Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Siri yao ni umoja, ndio mana wafika mbali Na lengo lao ni moja, kulinda maji asili Zaidi kukidhi haja, za Jamii na serikali Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Dhumuni lao Sheria, Ulinzi na Usalama Kote meshika doria, bahari, mito mesimama Rasilimali asilia, za maji ziko salama Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Wameongeza taswira, kwenye kukuza uchumi Uvuvi uliobora, sio tena wa kihuni Utalii metia fora, wageni mejawa amani Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Wameweza kuboresha, Usalama kwa Jamii Uchafu wamekomesha, magonjwa meyadhibiti Fukwe nyingi kwa sasa, wanapata hewa safi Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Wanazilinda haki, zinazolea uhai Mamba,viboko, samaki, wameleta ufahari Serikali meafiki, ubora wa Coastguard Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya Wanazo silaha Kali, kuimarisha ulinzi Adui tapigwa kweli, akija hata kwa mbizi Wanazilinda bandari, hakuna tena waizi Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Sheria wako makini, wanailinda katiba Kikupata hatiani, takupeleka kizimba Kenya wameithamini, uzalendo wameshiba Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Abiria wa majini, sasa wapo salamani Coastguard guard doriani, adui huingia mitini Haki zao mebaini, Coastguard kiwa ndani Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Shairi nalimaliza, jamani nikiwajuza Faida sitozimaliza, Coastguard kueleza Kamwe hawatoteleza, kutwa/daily wanajiongeza Kikosi cha Coastguard, ndio fahari ya Kenya

Malenga: Cpl Abdi Bakari Omari Jina la majazi: Overdoz Classic (Malenga Mlenga Ndipo)

STORYBOARD







STORYBOARD







STORYBOARD







KENYA COAST GUARD SERVICE



SERVICE CHARTER

About Kenya Coast Guard Service

Kenya Coast Guard Service (KCGS) is established by Kenya Coast Guard Service Act, No. 11 of 2018 with a mandate to enforce laws and regulations applicable in Kenya's territorial and inland waters. The mandate revolves around maritime safety and security, protection of marine resources and sites, customs, pollution control, narcotic drugs, illegal firearms and ammunitions.

Vision

A premier Service in maritime security and safety

Mission

To enforce Maritime Law on Security, Safety and Protection of Maritime Resources within Kenya's territorial waters

CITIZENS' DELIVERY SERVICES

CITIZENS DELIVERT SERVICES				
S/NO.	Customer Support Services	Customer Requirement(s)	Cost of Service	Timeline
1.	Response to phone calls (Landline or any other official line	Phone call	Free	15 secs.
2.	Response to enquiry by walk in clients	Walk in to a KCGS Station and make an enquiry	Free	1 min
3.	Response to	Written letters	Free	5 working days
	correspondence	Email and Social media (Twitter, IG, Telegram, FB etc)	Free	1 working day
4.	Acknowledgement to public complaints and grievances	Make a complaint through various mediums i.e., social media, Letters, In Person etc	Free	1 working day
5.	Resolution to complaints	Make a verbal or written resolution	Free	14 working days
6.	Protection of marine resources	Complaints/Cooperation/partnership	Free	24 hrs
7.	Prevention of maritime crime	Complaints /Cooperation / partnership	Free	24 hrs
8.	Response to emergency calls at sea/lake	Accuracy of the report/Cooperation/partnership	Free	Immediately
9.	Prosecution of maritime offenders	Cooperation with investigators	Free	Within 24 hrs from time of arrest
10.	Enforcement of Maritime safety and security	Cooperation and collaboration	Free	24 hrs
11.	Registration of suppliers	Requisite procurement documentation	Free	14 Working days
12.	Processing of tenders	Submit bids for goods and services	Free	90 days
13.	Notification of successful and unsuccessful bidders	Access e- procurement portal for notification	Free	1 Working Day
14.	Payment for goods and services received	L.P.O/Invoice certificate of completion/Goods/Service Received	Free	60 days from the date of receipt of the invoice
15.	Disposal of obsolete stores	Submission of bids	Free	60 days from the date of advertisement
16.	policy making process	Familiarization with issues and active participation	Free	1 day
17.	Recruitment of staff	Make formal application based on advert	Free	-
18.	Process of request for information	Make a request for information	Free	7 days

Our Commitmen

- Committed to ensuring maritime safety, security, and protection of Kenya's territorial sea, lakes and navigable rivers;
- KCGS is unwaveringly dedicated to fostering the Blue Economy, serving as a proactive enabler for sustainable maritime practices and resource utilization;
- Strive to provide efficient, effective and professional services to safeguard maritime interests while upholding the rule of law;
- Dedicated to providing accessible and responsive services to the public;
- Adhere to the highest standards of professionalism and integrity in all our operations;
- Foster collaboration and cooperation with national and international stakeholders involved in maritime security;
- Place emphasis on raising awareness and promoting education about maritime safety and security.
- Dedicated to continuous improvement in our service delivery;
- Strive to ensure transparency and accountability in our operations;
- Respect the confidentiality and privacy of individuals and organizations with whom we interact;
- Actively engage and consult with relevant stakeholders, including the public, industry players and government agencies to foster collaborative approach in addressing maritime challenges.

Contacts

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