



## IMPROVEMENT OF PORT CUSTOMS AND OPERATION EFFICIENCY IN AFRICA

*December, 2019*

### *Project and partnership*

The project IPCOEA has to improve efficiency of customs and administrative clearance process of port operations in accordance to EPAs in Ports of the ECOWAS Area through the implementation of Single Window Systems

The project is funded by the ACP Secretariat and the European Union and by the project partners.

The project will be implemented by the partnership composed by:

- **The Fondazione Accademia Italiana Marina Mercantile (FAIMM)**
- **The Académie Régionale des Sciences et Techniques de la Mer (ARSTM)**
- **The Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA).**

FAIMM was founded in 2005 with the aim of offering high education and training in the maritime sector.

ARSTM is the regional maritime and industrial training institution of the fifteen French-speaking countries of West and Central Africa.

PMAWCA was established in October 1972 under the auspices of the Economic Commission for Africa and it covers the seaports located along the West Coast of Africa including Mauritania and Angola.

*December 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>nd</sup> 2019*

### *Technical meeting in Abidjan.*

*Starting on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 the technical meeting of the project was held in Abidjan.*

*The work of the meeting covered several technical aspects: revision of the procedures for the financial management of the project, practical exercises for the production of reports on the progress of the project actions up to the overall vision of the development of the activities.*





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### The project background

The EU supported the development of maritime trade in the West Africa region with a comprehensive approach focused on harmonization of regulations, efficiency of Ports and setup of a regional databases for the exchange of information. This programme was implemented, among others, by FAIMM – IMSSEA with the project IPSEA (**Improvement of Port Safety and Efficiency in Africa**). During the implementation of the actions, multiple stakeholders have highlighted that customs management and administrative clearance showed some deficiencies in many ports of the Region.

In consideration of this and the new obligations arising from the ECOWAS CET (Customs Union) as well as expectations, by international traders, of improved efficiency of customs following the EU-West Africa EPA, the IMSSEA and local stakeholders have agreed to identify the improvement of efficiency in port customs and administrative procedures as a priority action to be implemented as follow-up of actions carried out during the IPSEA Project (which focused on training on safety and efficiency of port activities).

**SAVE THE DATE**

*Spring 2020  
Starting of the  
training  
programme*

Fondazione Accademia  
Italiana Marina Mercantile  
(FAIMM)

**MARCO SIMONCINI**

simoncini.m@imssea.org

Académie Régionale des  
Sciences et Techniques de la  
Mer (ARSTM)

**DAGO ALAIN  
GOHOMENE**

Port Management  
Association of West and  
Central Africa (PMAWCA)

**AFRI KOUASSI**

afriesai@gmail.com

