



# REGIONAL SECURITY SYSTEMS (RSS)

Strength Through Unity



## EMERGING TRENDS/CHALLENGES ON MARITIME NARCOTRAFFICKING CONTROL IN THE RSS SUB-REGION





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## OVERVIEW

- Background Regional Security System (RSS)
- RSS Security Environment
- How we do it
- Emerging Trends & Challenges
- Conclusion



# RSS ALLIANCE





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## PURPOSE & FUNCTION

**MISSION:** To ensure the stability and well-being of Member States through mutual cooperation, in order to maximize regional security in preserving the social and economic development of our people.

**MOTTO:** Strength through Unity





# OPERATIONAL ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO SECURITY IN RSS AOR

- Pursuant to Article 4 (1) of Treaty, the conduct of operations related to:

Countering Transnational Organised Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Prevention and Interdiction of traffic in Illegal Narcotic Drugs</li><li>– Immigration Control</li><li>– Fisheries Protection</li><li>– Pollution Control</li><li>– Maritime Policing Duties</li><li>– Prevention of Smuggling</li><li>– Customs and Excise Control</li><li>– Protection of Off-shore Installations and Exclusive Economic Zones</li><li>– Combating Threats to National Security</li></ul>
HA/DR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Response to National Emergencies / Disasters</li><li>– Regional Search and Rescue</li><li>– Natural and Other Disasters</li></ul>



# REGIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM (RSS)

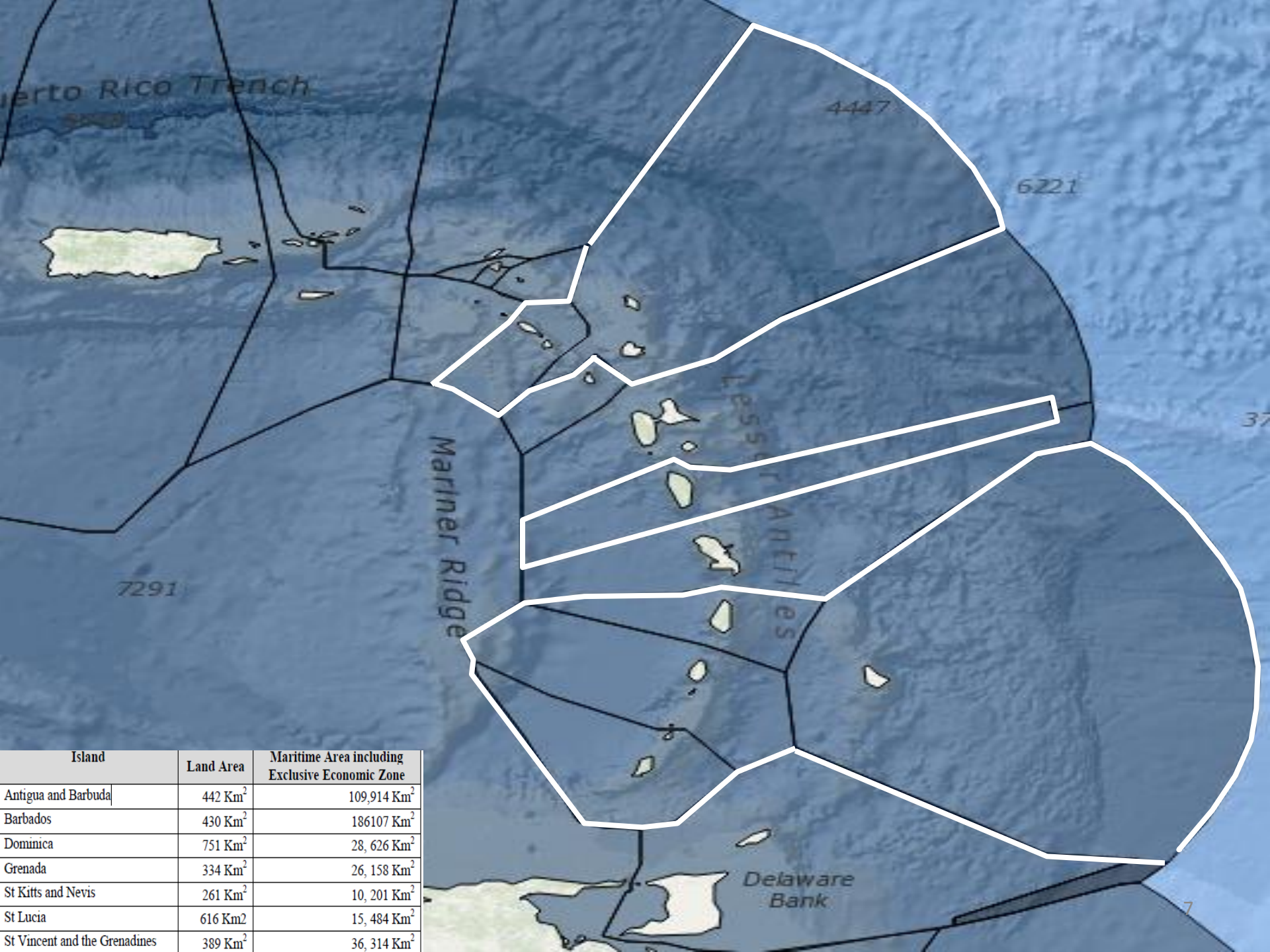
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RSS SECURITY ENVIRONMENT

THE CONTEXT





Island	Land Area	Maritime Area including Exclusive Economic Zone
Antigua and Barbuda	442 Km <sup>2</sup>	109,914 Km <sup>2</sup>
Barbados	430 Km <sup>2</sup>	186,107 Km <sup>2</sup>
Dominica	751 Km <sup>2</sup>	28,626 Km <sup>2</sup>
Grenada	334 Km <sup>2</sup>	26,158 Km <sup>2</sup>
St Kitts and Nevis	261 Km <sup>2</sup>	10,201 Km <sup>2</sup>
St Lucia	616 Km <sup>2</sup>	15,484 Km <sup>2</sup>
St Vincent and the Grenadines	389 Km <sup>2</sup>	36,314 Km <sup>2</sup>

# The Modern Strategic Communications Environment

- 24 hour news cycles.
- Citizen journalists.
- Participatory web networks.
- Peer to peer media.
- Social networking.
- Video sharing.
- Podcasting.
- Life-streaming.
- Virtual world.
- Web activism.
- Dark web.
- Differentials in power determine access to the media and relationship.

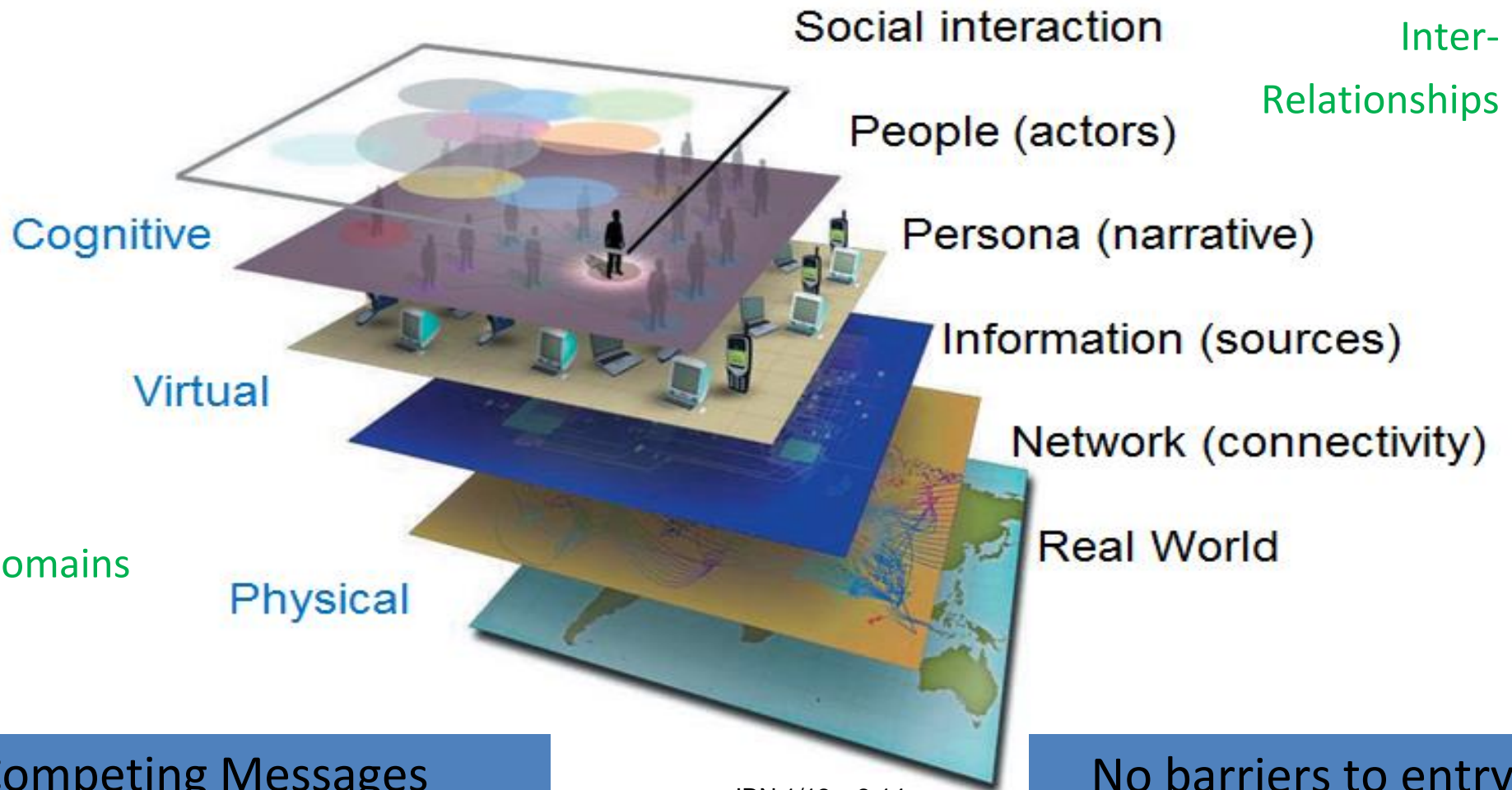




# Information Environment

Borderless

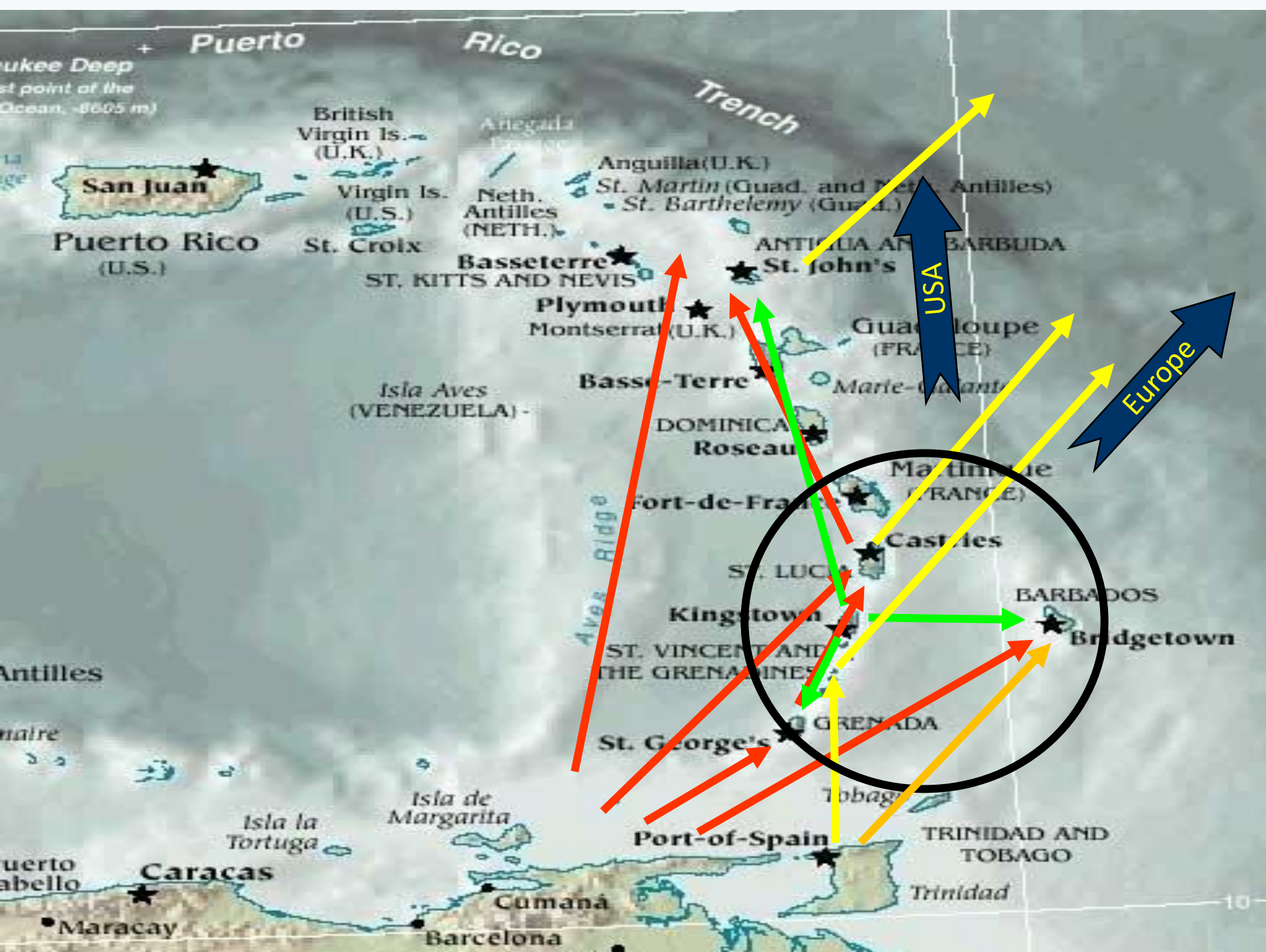
Alternative Voices



Competing Messages

JDN 1/12 p 2-14

No barriers to entry





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## Primary Maritime Security Threat

- Uncanalised maritime smuggling
  - go-fasts (pirogues, cigarette boats)
  - fishing vessels
  - coasters
  - yachts
- the greatest risk -
  - **go-fasts**





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## DETECTION AND MONITORING CAPABILITIES

Two  
C-26A



- Available for tasking 24/7
- Radar and FLIR equipped
- video downlink capability

Inter Coastal  
Surveillance  
System (ICSS)



- Barbados has a stand alone system
- Grenada , St. Vincent and the Grenadines and St. Lucia linked to Trinidad and Tobago







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## INTERDICTION CAPABILITIES

### OPV RSS Member States



- Barbados, St. Kitts and Antigua have OPV capability
- Limited patrols due to funding constraints

### OPV International partners



- US/UK/France and Netherlands
- Availability to support limited to planned ops or when in area

### INTERCEPTORS RSS Member States



- Six RSS Member States equipped with Safe boats





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## AIR WING OPERATIONS

- Conduct approximately 15-20 intelligence driven and routine maritime Counter Drug (CD) missions per month in support of RSS Member States
- Intelligence provided by NCA. Other sources JIATFS, DEA and Drug Squads
- Participate in planned operations in the RSS AOR
- Joint operations conducted with international partners; US, UK, France and Netherlands.
- MOA to support JIATFS





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## CD Operations 01 Jan 2001 – 12 Jun 2018

- CD missions flown: 3629
- Contacts prosecuted: 709
- Cocaine seized/disrupted: 18, 936.8kg
- Marijuana seized/disrupted: 121, 482.3lbs
- Persons arrested: 769
- Vessels: 177
- Currency totaling: 2, 639, 320 US dollars



# EMERGING TRENDS & CHALLENGES



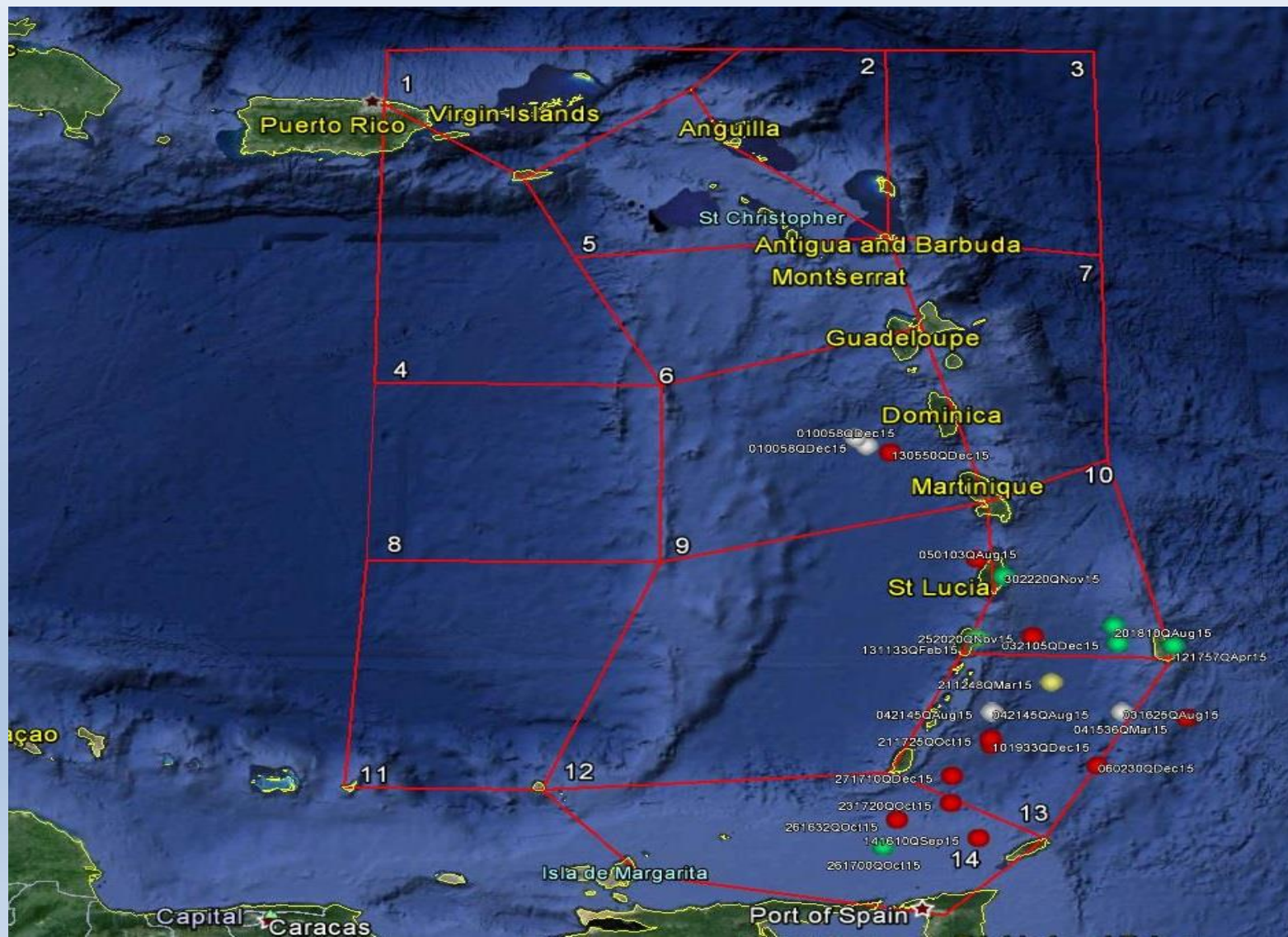


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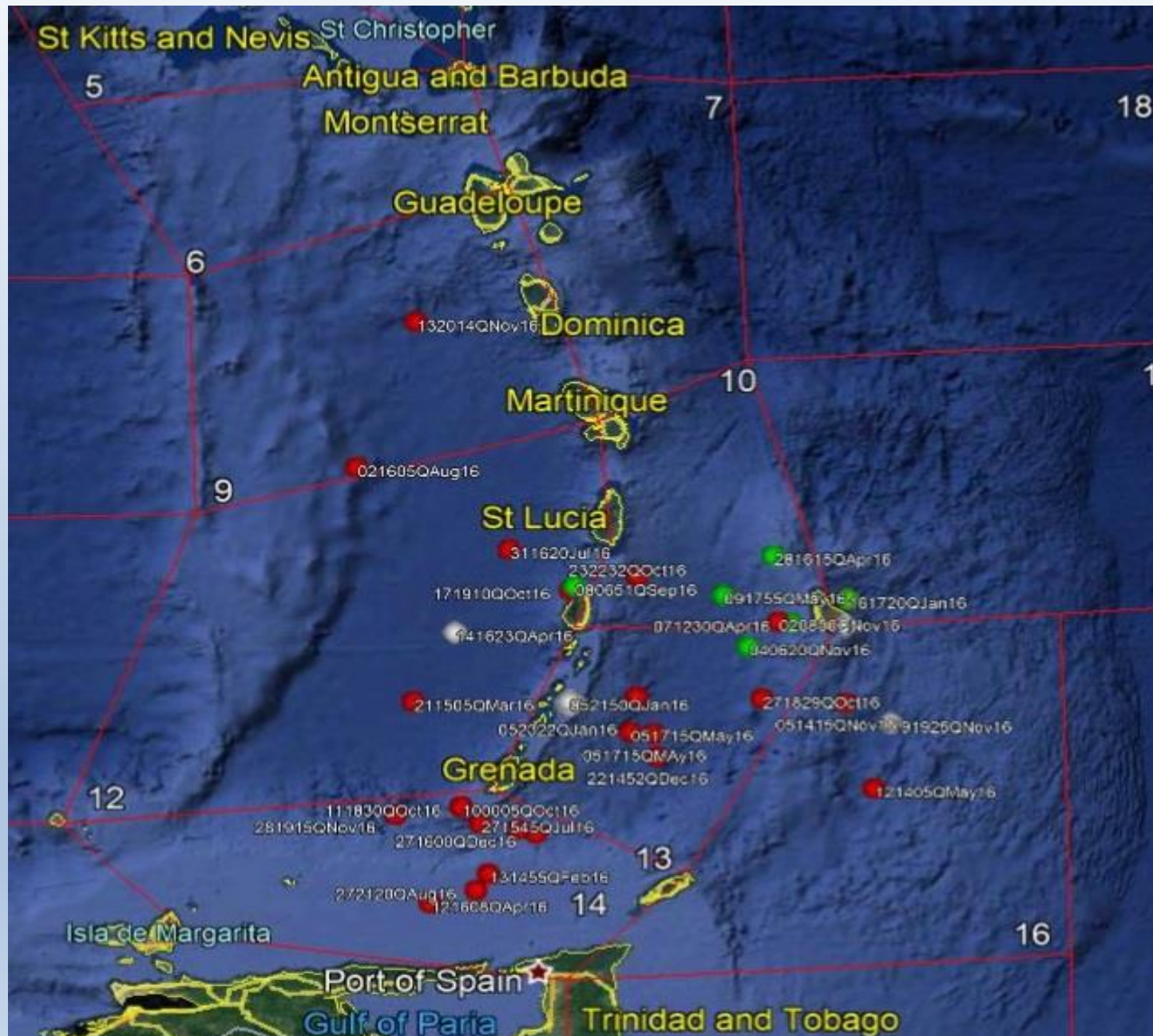
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## Contacts for 2015

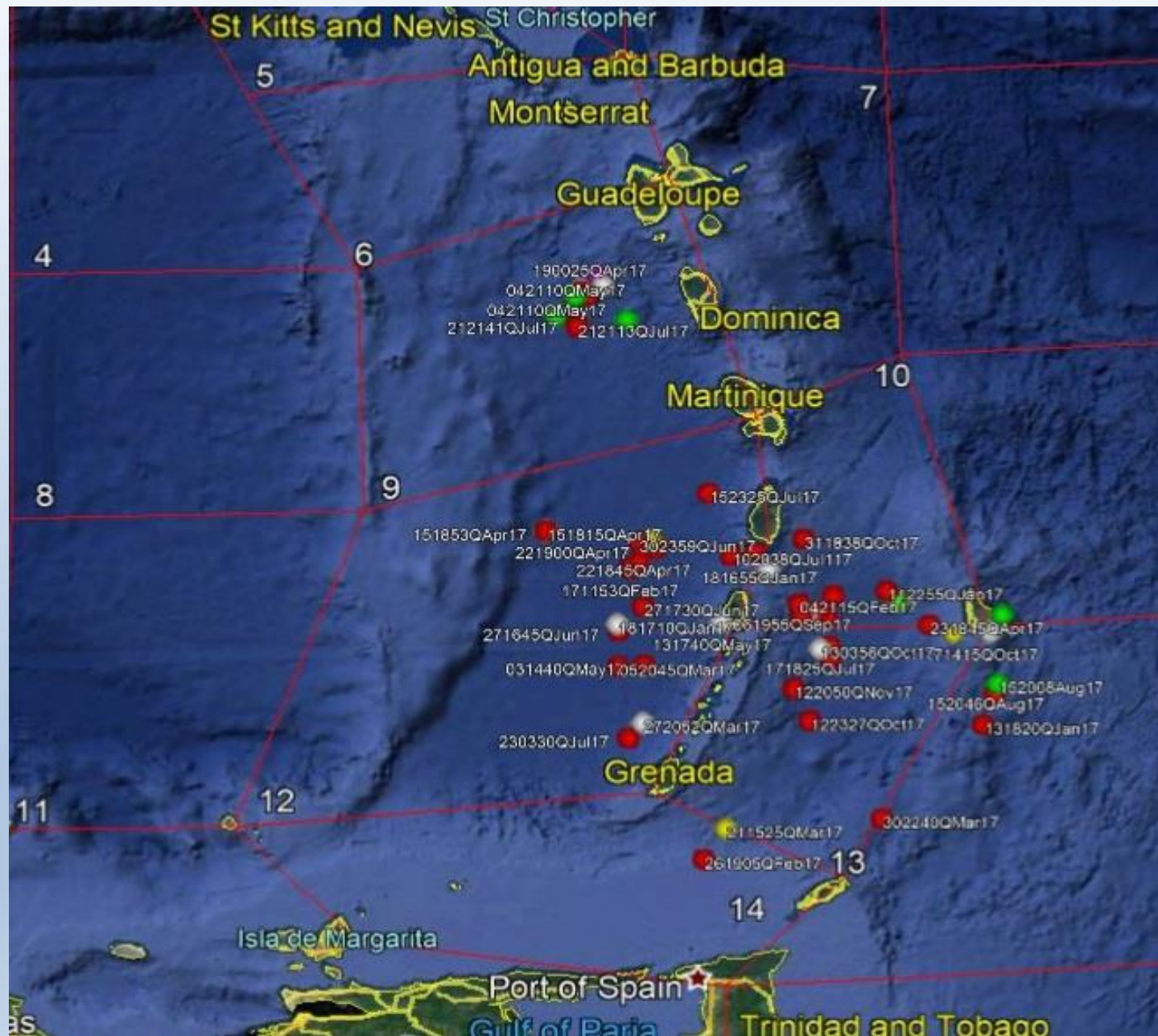


# Contacts for 2016

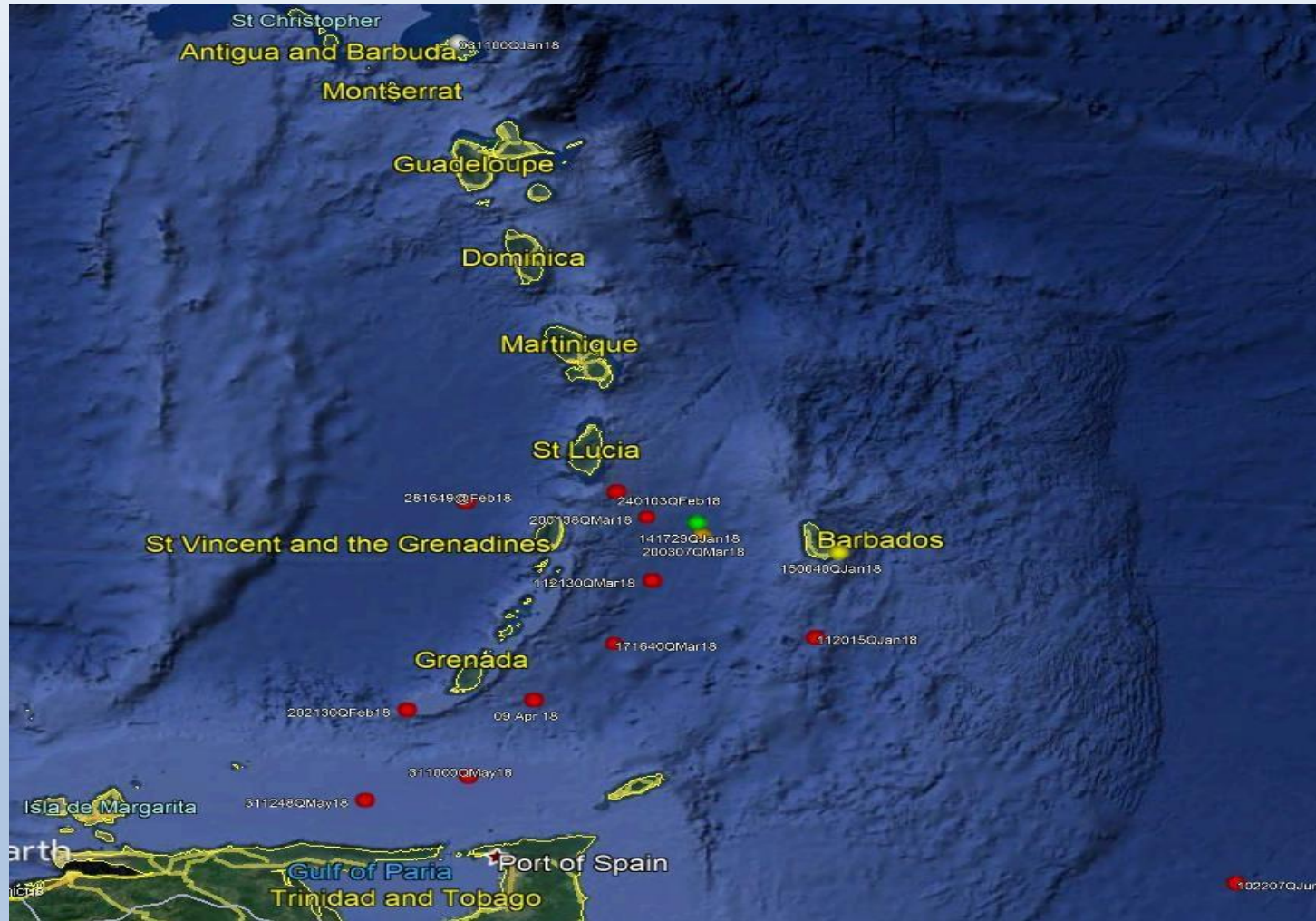




# Contacts for 2017

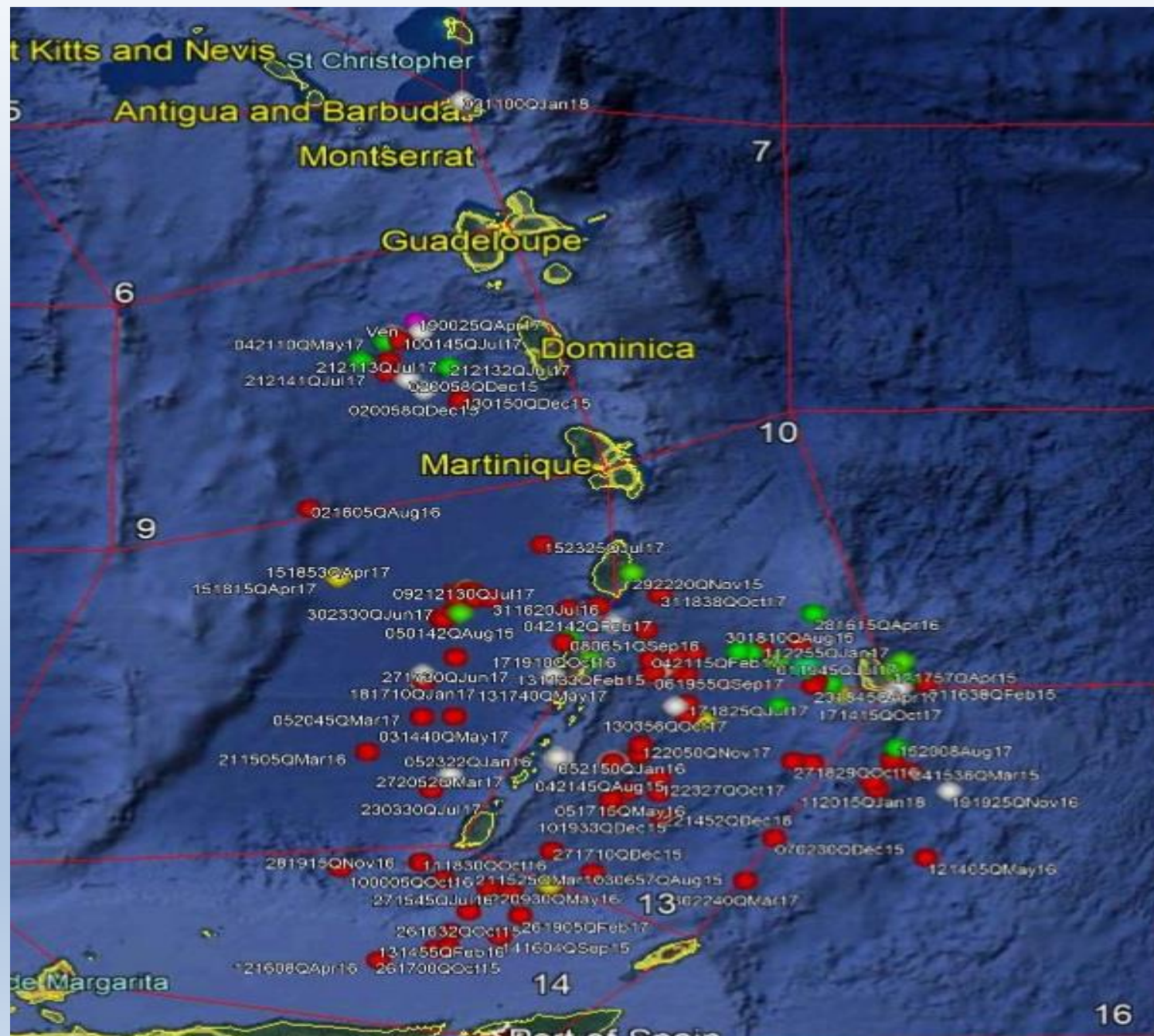


# Go Fast Detections 2018





# Contacts for 2015 - Present



INSERT VIDEO

# SUMMARY

- Huge maritime space
- Limited domain awareness
- Limited offshore capability
- Limited CG Special Forces
- Legislation – Asset recovery & forfeiture
- No joint procurement
- No national and regional maritime strategy

# SUMMARY

- Lack of funding
- Venezuela current economic & security situation
- Adversary is able to adapt quicker than us
- Adversary network is stronger
- Piracy – Gulf of Paria



# SUMMARY

- RSS Treaty
- Good Intelligence
- Excellent cooperation and coordination
- We make things work with what we have
- Coast Guard Commanders Conference
- Capacity Building
- Integrity – Operators are vetted



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## CONCLUSION

- RSS sees the transnational threat situation impacting the Caribbean as dynamic.
- Existing vulnerabilities to the risks and threats demand a reinforced RSS role and moreover, wider hemispheric partnerships.
- RSS is determined in its purpose and committed to its strategic partners in fighting the timeless transnational threats that confront us all.





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## THE WAY FORWARD

### ARTICLE 20

#### Relations with States and other International Organisations

1. The System shall seek to establish relations with States and with other international organisations which are in a position to further the purposes of this Treaty; and to that end the Council may conclude agreements or enter upon working relationships with such States or organisations.

The Executive Director, Captain (N) Errington Shurland thanks CICAD, OAS for assisting the RSS in fulfilling its mandate as outline in our Treaty





Inter-American Drug Abuse  
Control Commission