

SOMALIA | 2019 MARITIME SECURITY INDEX

Somalia's vast maritime domain, which ranks second in size among all mainland African nations, encompasses much of the Gulf of Aden and northwest Indian Ocean. In the north, Somalia's maritime claims approach the eastern entrance of the geostrategic Bab-el-Mandeb strait—one of the world's busiest shipping lanes. This area suffers from high rates of illicit maritime traffic and maritime mixed migration between East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula. To the south, the Somali coast harbors transnational criminal networks that facilitate illicit trading in weapons, drugs, wildlife, and contraband like charcoal and sugar.

GOOD GOVERNANCE:

SOMALIA HAS SUFFERED FROM DECADES OF WAR AND ITS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LACKS THE CAPACITY TO EXERT CONTROL OVER THE ENTIRE SOMALI COAST. Coastal governance occurs primarily at the regional or local level. Consequently, large stretches of the Somali Indian Ocean coast are effectively controlled by non-state actors and transnational criminal organizations.

ECONOMIC RESILIENCE:

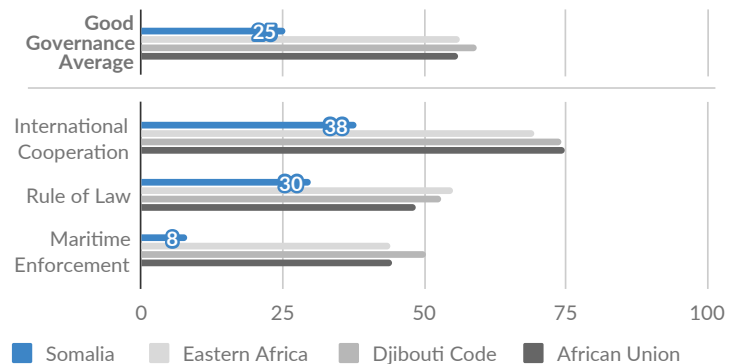
Somalia has rich fisheries supported by coral reefs and a productive upwelling zone. However, according to the 2015 *Securing Somali Fisheries* report, **MUCH OF THIS ECONOMIC POTENTIAL REMAINS UNDERDEVELOPED DUE TO WEAK GOVERNANCE AND ONGOING VIOLENT CONFLICT.** In 2019, Somalia ranks 70th of the 70 countries studied for Coastal Welfare, 67th for Blue Economy, and 63rd for Fisheries. Building economic resilience will require dramatic improvements to Maritime Enforcement (rank: 70th) and the Rule of Law (65th).

SECURITY AT SEA:

Somalia is famous for piracy and armed robbery at sea, though this threat peaked in the early 2010s before Somali authorities and the international community invested aggressively in counter-piracy measures. **INSTANCES OF PIRACY AND ARMED ROBBERY REMAIN LOW IN 2019, THOUGH MANY UNDERLYING CAUSES OF PIRACY, INCLUDING COASTAL POVERTY AND LOW LAW-ENFORCEMENT CAPACITY, REMAIN IN PLACE.** At present, the more substantial concerns are trafficking in goods and maritime mixed migration. Both problems are exacerbated by violent political conflicts in the Horn of Africa and across the Gulf of Aden in Yemen.

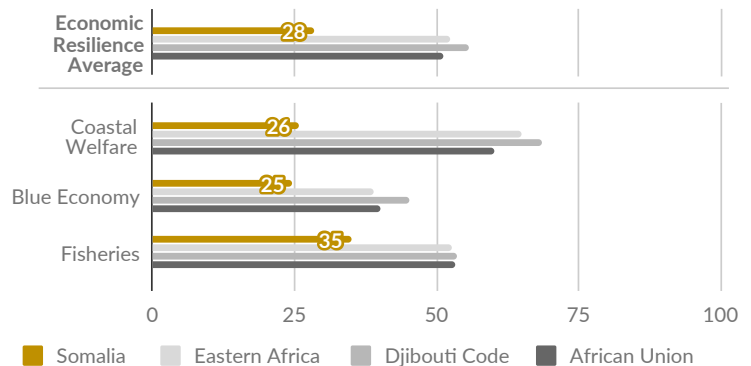
GOOD GOVERNANCE SCORES

Higher Scores Indicate Stronger Governance



ECONOMIC RESILIENCE SCORES

Higher Scores Indicate More Resilient Economies



SECURITY AT SEA SCORES

Higher Scores Indicate More Secure Waters

