

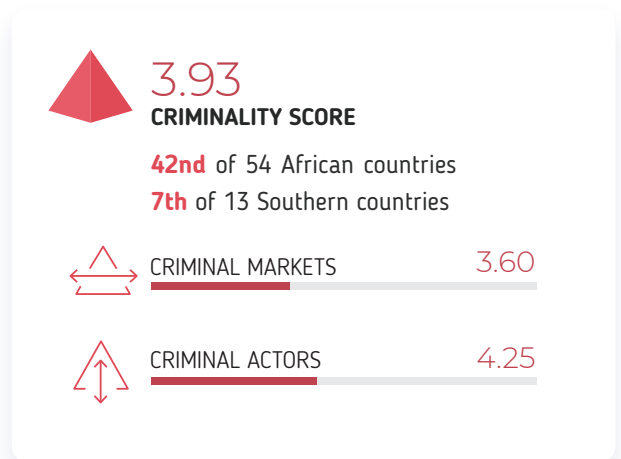
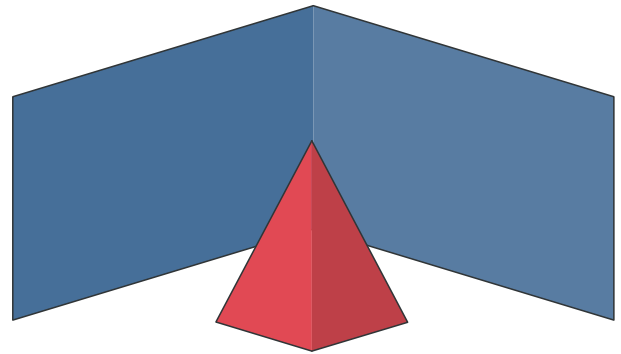
 SEYCHELLES

Seychelles ranks 42nd in the Index for **criminality**, with fairly low scores across almost all **criminal markets** and **criminal actors**.

The **heroin trade** and **fauna crimes** are the only two illicit markets reported as being of significant concern, scoring 6.5 and 6, respectively. While other markets are somewhat established, and reported to be growing, none score above 4, suggesting they have at most a moderately negative influence on society.

The most active types of **criminal actors** in Seychelles are **foreign actors** and **criminal networks** involved in human trafficking, drug smuggling and wildlife poaching. Nevertheless, levels of organised crime overall are low in Seychelles and criminal actors are not judged to be particularly influential.

Seychelles performs well on **resilience**, ranking 11th in Africa, with most indicators scoring between 5.5 and 7, suggesting the country is sufficiently effective in the combating organised crime. Seychelles' **laws** related to organised crime, the success of its **law enforcement** capacity and organised crime **prevention** activities all contribute to these good scores. Nevertheless, no area scores above 7, and experts highlight areas for improvement, such as in **territorial integrity**, **economic regulatory environment** and **anti-money laundering**.



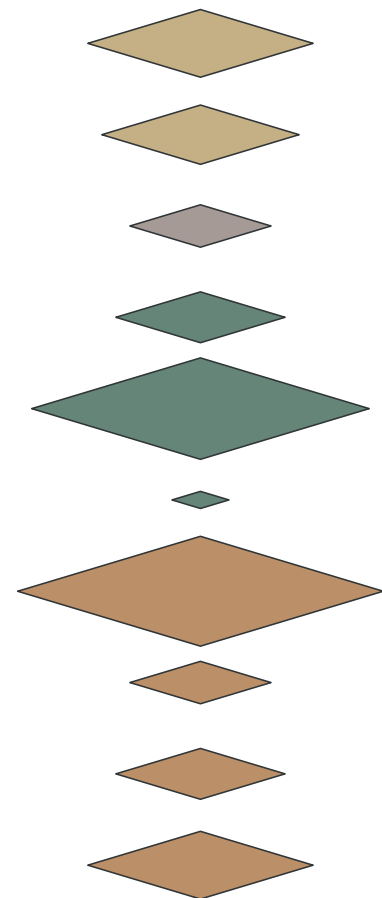
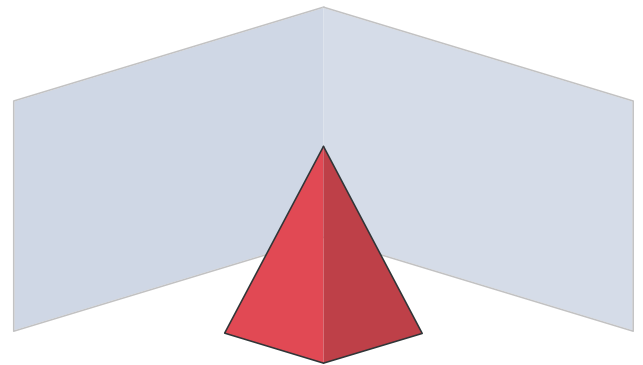
CRIMINALITY SCORE



CRIMINAL ACTORS	4.25
MAFIA STYLE GROUPS	2.0
CRIMINAL NETWORKS	4.5
STATE-EMBEDDED ACTORS	4.0
FOREIGN ACTORS	6.5



CRIMINAL MARKETS	3.60
HUMAN TRAFFICKING	4.0
HUMAN SMUGGLING	3.5
ARMS TRAFFICKING	2.5
FLORA CRIMES	3.0
FAUNA CRIMES	6.0
NON-RENEWABLE RESOURCES CRIMES	1.0
HEROIN TRADE	6.5
COCAINE TRADE	2.5
CANNABIS TRADE	3.0
SYNTHETIC DRUGS TRADE	4.0



Criminal Markets

The most pervasive criminal market in Seychelles is the **heroin trade**, which scores 6.5 in the Index, due to high domestic use of the drug. The island nation is a destination country for heroin trafficked from East Africa and the Asian subcontinent. Seychelles is also an important maritime trans-shipment point for heroin from Afghanistan destined for East Africa, Madagascar, Mozambique and South Africa. Its role is growing as maritime routes shift in response to military interdictions at sea.

Fauna crimes are also prevalent. As an island nation, Seychelles is largely protected from the wildlife trafficking that afflicts many other African nations, such as ivory and rhino horn trafficking. However, illegal fishing poses a significant problem and is costly to the economy and environment. Seychelles ranks 21st in the IUU Fishing Index on the prevalence of illegal fishing. The primary driver of illegal fishing in the country is extreme overfishing, predominantly by Chinese trawlers,



which deplete fish stocks. Local people are forced to fish illegally to make a living.

Criminal Actors

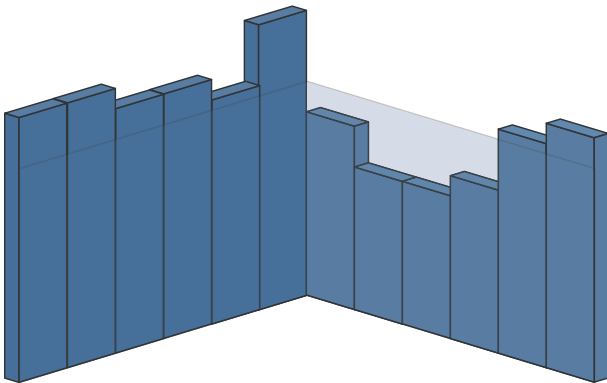
As might be expected in a country with relatively low levels of organised crime, organised **criminal actors** do not exert high levels of influence on society or state structures. **Mafia-style groups** are virtually non-existent in Seychelles. **Criminal networks**, with a score of 4.5, have a moderate influence on organised crime the country. They are involved in the drug trade, acting as an interface between foreign players in transnational drugs markets and domestic users. These loosely organised criminal networks are often based on family ties.

Similarly, **state-embedded actors** have a moderate influence in the Seychelles, but are known to be involved in the illegal fishing industry. Although levels of corruption in the country are not insignificant, state-embedded actors do not control any of the illicit markets in Seychelles. Nor do they have any discernible links with domestic criminal actors.

Foreign actors are the highest-scoring criminal actor type in Seychelles, with 6.5, and are deeply involved in drug trafficking. Foreign nationals are also responsible for a large proportion of the illegal fishing that occurs in Seychelles' national waters; and are involved in human trafficking, primarily for forced labour, within the Seychelles.



RESILIENCE SCORE



POLITICAL LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE	6.5
GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY	6.5
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION	6.0
NATIONAL POLICIES AND LAWS	6.0
JUDICIAL SYSTEM AND DETENTION	5.5
LAW ENFORCEMENT	7.0
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY	4.5
ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING	3.5
ECONOMIC REGULATORY ENVIRONMENT	3.5
VICTIM AND WITNESS SUPPORT	4.0
PREVENTION	5.5
NON-STATE ACTORS	6.0

As well as low levels of **criminality**, Seychelles has a high **resilience** to organised crime, ranking 11th in Africa. The government is vocal and open about its stance against organised crime, particularly regarding piracy and drug trafficking. Seychelles is also considered one of the least corrupt nations in Africa.

Seychelles has ratified all relevant international treaties on organised crime, apart from the Firearms Protocol of the UNTOC. The country is also a party to the Palermo Convention and Rome Statute; and is a member of the Indian Ocean Rim Association, Indian Ocean Commission and Southern African Development Community. The country regularly collaborates with the French military on intelligence and training exercises and maintains good relations with India in this respect also.

In addition to collaborating with global partners, Seychelles has established a robust **legislative framework** against organised crime. Laws are in place to tackle various forms of organised crime, including money laundering, drug trafficking and human trafficking. However, forced labour is an area where policy does not

adequately address the problem the country faces, with minimal effort or policies to assist exploited workers.

Although the **judicial system** is often slow, the country's **law enforcement** bodies are effective in arresting perpetrators of organised crime, most notably drug traffickers and illegal fishers. Where Seychelles falls short is with respect to its **anti-money laundering** capacity and the **economic regulatory environment** in the country. Seychelles is a well-known tax haven, which makes it a very desirable country to register companies in and funnel profits through. This makes it very appealing to syndicates and groups involved in organised crime, especially those based relatively close in East Africa and on the Asian subcontinent.

The EU lists Seychelles as one of the top 30 non-cooperative tax jurisdictions, though the country has committed to reforms to become tax-compliant. The formal labour market is not fully established, which allows exploitative practices – particularly involving foreign, often smuggled, labourers – to persist.

