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E-001422/2026

Answer given by High Representative/Vice-President Kallas
on behalf of the European Commission
(10.8.2026)

Since 2015, EU support to migration management in Libya has been funded mainly through the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (EUTF)¹ and the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument – Global Europe (NDICI-GE)². Under the EUTF North Africa window, EUR 59 million were allocated to border management-related support in Libya under the ‘Support to Integrated Border and Migration Management in Libya’ programme. This included support for activities in search and rescue in the desert, implemented by International Organisation for Migration, as well as for the Libyan Coast Guard in Tripoli.

EU support on the maritime side has included the provision of search and rescue vessels, rubber boats, training on international maritime law and human rights, technical assistance and support for operating procedures and coordination capacities.

Under NDICI-GE, around EUR 35 million are currently contracted for border management-related activities, mainly focussing on land borders and technical assistance.

The EU supports the establishment of Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) in Benghazi to respond to Libyan requests addressing maritime security challenges in the east, and to promote intra-Libyan cooperation, as well as with international search and rescue actors in the Mediterranean Sea. The project comprises the establishment of the MRCC and the training of the MRCC operators and coordinators, as well as the training of the Search and Rescue (SAR) vessel crews, for enhancing capacities and compliance with international law and human rights in border management and SAR operations. It will be implemented by the Operation EUNAVFOR MED IRINI³ and supported by the EU Border Assistance Mission in Libya⁴ and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime.

¹ https://trust-fund-for-africa.europa.eu/index_en.

² https://international-partnerships.ec.europa.eu/funding-and-technical-assistance/funding-instruments/global-europe-neighbourhood-development-and-international-cooperation-instrument_en.

³ <https://www.operationirini.eu/>.

⁴ https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eubam-libya_en.